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THE PRIDE OF THE YANKEES



The Life of Lou Gehrig

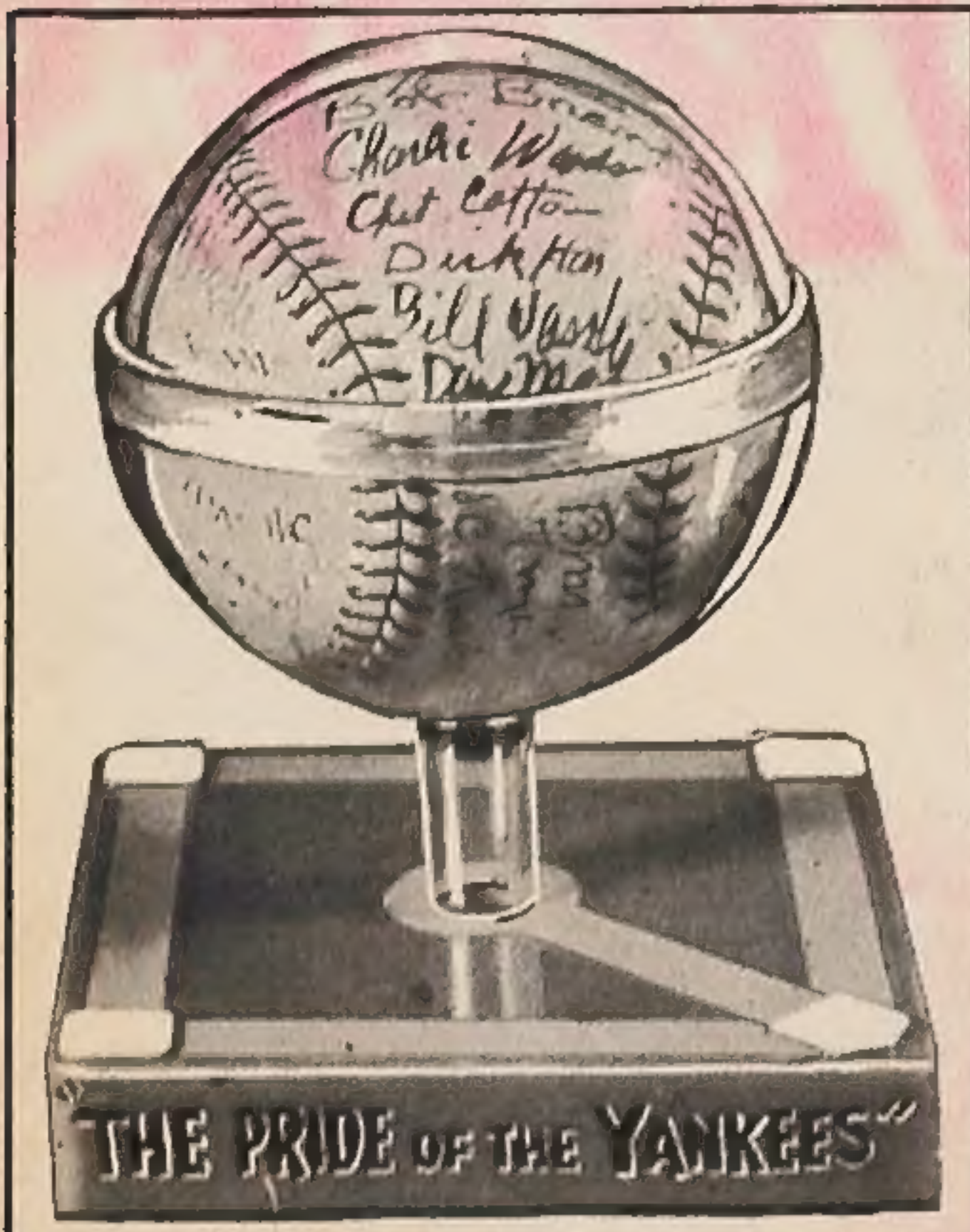
10¢



Special Feature! How to Become a Big League Player!

Hey Gang--Step Up To Home Plate--And "MAKE A HIT" With This SENSATIONAL NEW "Safe-At-Home" SHOW CASE and "PRIDE OF THE YANKEES" BASEBALL

YOU'LL BE PROUD TO OWN THIS — THE PRICE IS ONLY



HERE IS SOMETHING EVERYONE OF YOU HAVE ALWAYS WANTED, BUT COULDN'T GET . . . A new, revolutionary SHOWCASE TO KEEP YOUR AUTOGRAPHED BASEBALL IN and IN ADDITION as an INTRODUCTORY



OFFER, we are putting in a "SIGNATURE, PRIDE OF THE YANKEE—BASEBALL" . . . It's something entirely new, that will really make your friends sit up and take notice, and that will make you the envy of the neighborhood! The case is really something out of this world . . . made of clear, beautiful gleaming plastic, mounted on a green baseball "Diamond" . . . it will last and last . . . forever . . . and it will preserve the baseball forever! AND JUST LOOK AT THE LINEUP OF NAMES ON THE BALL: CASEY STENGEL, ED LOPAT, JOE MAGGIO, JOHN LINDELL, CLARENCE MARSHALL, HANK BAUER, FRED SANFORD, LARRY BERRA, TOMMIE HENDRICK, GEORGE STERNWEISS, PHIL RIZZUTO, CHARLIE KELLER, FRANK SHEA, JOE PAGE, GEORGE MARSHALL, TOMMY BYRNE, GENE WOODING, BOB PORTERFIELD, VIC RASCHI, CLIFF MAPES, BOBBY BROWN, ALLIE REYNOLDS, FRANK CROSETTI, PHIL JOHNSON, FRANK HILLER AND RALPH HAUCK!!! MAN O MAN . . . WHAT A LINE UP! DON'T WASTE ANY TIME, ORDER YOURS TODAY!

SHOWCASE with SIGNATURE BASEBALL - Complete Outfit above right, only \$3.98



IF YOU ARE ONE OF THE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO ALREADY OWN AN AUTOGRAPHED BASEBALL and you want someplace, something, to keep it in, and to show it to friends, why just order the showcase alone. THE GLEAMING PLASTIC, IS CRYSTAL CLEAR, IT PERMITS YOU TO KEEP THE BALL ON display at all times, without getting it dirty, or wearing the name off . . . THIS SHOWCASE IS REALLY A HUMDINGER, SO DON'T WASTE ANY TIME GETTING PROTECTION FOR YOUR AUTOGRAPHED BALL, PROTECTION THAT WILL PERMIT YOU TO PRESERVE THE BALL AND TO DISPLAY IT. PERMANENTLY ORDER IT NOW!



SHOWCASE ALONE - FOR AUTOGRAPHED BALL YOU OWN - IS ONLY - \$1.98

BASEBALL ONLY . . . IF YOU JUST WANT one of the PRIDE OF THE YANKEES BASEBALLS ALONE WE'LL SEND YOU THAT TOO . . . OR IF YOU WOULD PREFER A BASEBALL WITH ANOTHER TEAM'S NAMES ON IT . . . ANY MAJOR LEAGUE TEAM . . . WE'LL SEND THAT TO YOU TOO . . . JUST FILL IN THE COUPON AND BE SURE TO SPECIFY WHICH TEAM'S BALL YOU WANT . . . (ONLY THE MAJOR LEAGUE TEAMS BALLS AVAILABLE) RUSH YOUR ORDER AT ONCE . . . WE ARE GOING TO BE SWAMPED WITH ORDERS AND WE WANT YOU TO HAVE YOURS SOON!!

BASEBALL



GUARANTEED NO RISK OFFER

YOU can try this offer for 10 days at no risk to you. If you are not satisfied after you receive the case or ball, return it to us in 10 days time and we will send your money back . . . you can't strike out on this deal, but don't get stuck at base . . . FOR FAST ACTION, CLIP AND MAIL COUPON NOW — — —

SURETEST PRODUCTS, INC., Dept. 437-J, 124 East 16 St., N. Y. 3, N. Y.

GENTLEMEN: PLEASE RUSH THE FOLLOWING TO ME AT ONCE:

- ☐ PRIDE OF THE YANKEES SHOWCASE & BASEBALL @ only \$3.98 each
- ☐ SHOWCASE ONLY (I HAVE BALL) @ only \$1.98 each
- ☐ PRIDE OF THE YANKEES BASEBALL ONLY @ only \$1.98 each
- ☐ SHOWCASE & BASEBALL @ only \$3.98 each
- ☐ INSERT MAJOR LEAGUE TEAM YOU WANT @ only \$1.98 each
- ☐ BASEBALL ONLY @ only \$1.98 each

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

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State _____

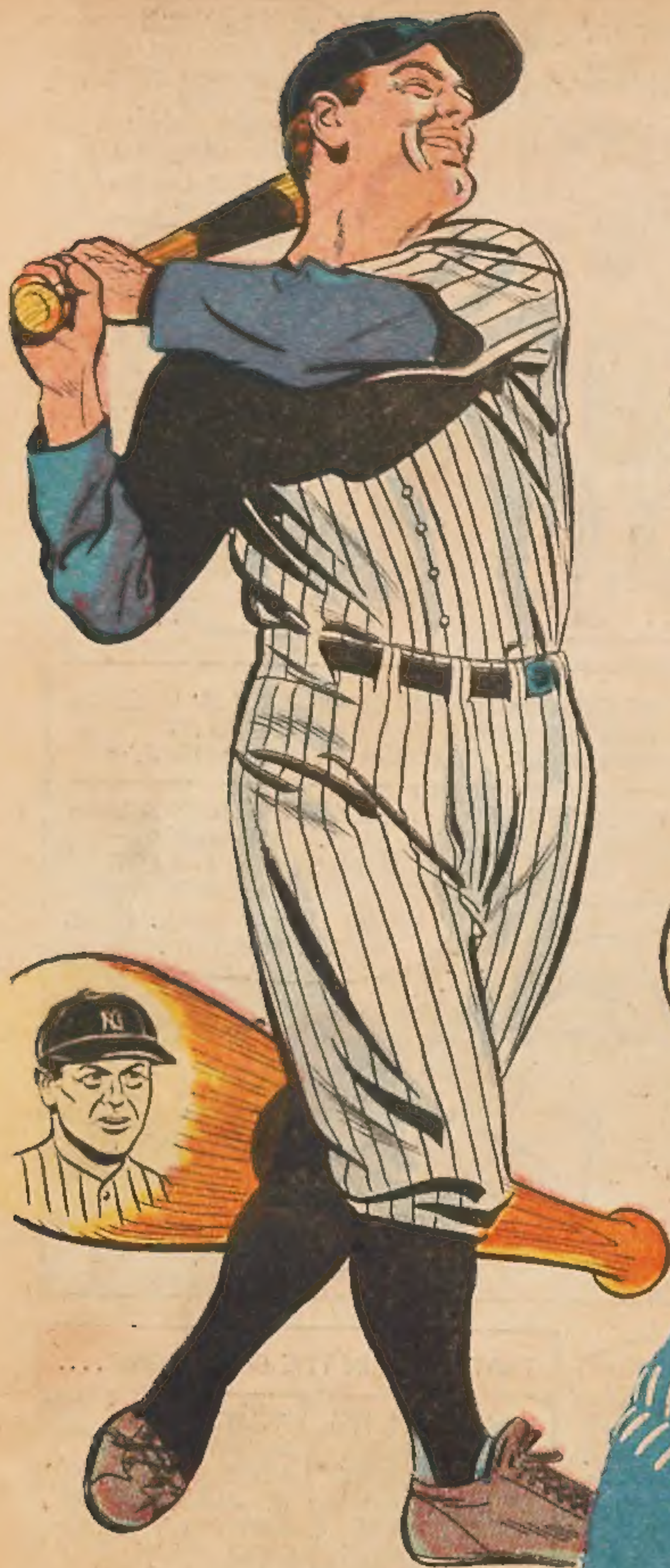
☐ SHIP C.O.D. FOR SALE PRICE AND FEW CENTS POSTAGE CHARGES.

☐ I ENCLOSE PAYMENT — YOU PAY THE POSTAGE CHARGES.

THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST SENSATIONAL OFFERS WE HAVE EVER MADE . . . WE KNOW THAT THERE ARE THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF FANS THAT HAVE ALWAYS WANTED A PERMANENT AND EFFECTIVE DISPLAY AND PROTECTIVE "AUTOGRAPH BALL SHOWCASE" AND SIGNATURE BASEBALLS . . . WELL HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR VERY OWN ONE, AND WE ARE SO SURE THAT YOU WILL BE DELIGHTED AND THRILLED WITH IT THAT WE OFFER IT TO YOU ON A MONEY BACK GUARANTEE THAT PROTECTS YOU IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED . . . YOU CAN RETURN IT TO US WITHIN 10 DAYS AND GET YOUR MONEY BACK . . . WE GUARANTEE YOUR SATISFACTION!

THE PRIDE OF THE YANKEES

TEXT BY
GARDNER F. FOX
ILLUSTRATED BY
Opinion & History



NOW LOU GEHRIG IS ONE WITH THE IMMORTALS. HIS PLAQUE RESTS IN THE HALL OF FAME. HIS RECORDS SHINE WITH AN ENDURING LIGHT WHEREVER BASEBALL AND THE MEN OF BASEBALL GATHER...

AND YET THERE WAS A TIME WHEN LOU GEHRIG WAS NOT THE "IRON HORSE", NOT THE "DURABLE DUTCHMAN" WHO SET A CONSECUTIVE GAME RECORD THAT WILL LAST FOREVER. HE WAS ONLY A BIG, STRONG BOY WITH A GRIM DETERMINATION TO BE AS GOOD AS STUDY AND HARD WORK COULD MAKE HIM.

HARD WORK AND PERSPIRATION AND NOT KNOWING WHAT THE WORD "QUIT" MEANT! THOSE WERE LOU'S KEYS TO SUCCESS, A SUCCESS THAT IS MEASURED IN THE HEARTS OF ALL WHO KNEW LOU, AND LOVED HIM...

A SUCCESS THAT TRULY MADE LOU GEHRIG - THE PRIDE OF THE YANKEES! THIS, THEN, IS HIS STORY...

IT WAS JUST BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENTERED WORLD WAR I. PEOPLE WERE CRANKING THEIR CARS BY HAND, WOMEN WORE THEIR HAIR LONG, AND FOLKS WERE DANCING THE SAME DANCES THAT VERNON AND IRENE CASTLE MADE FAMOUS. THE ATHLETICS AND THE RED SOX WERE THE OUTSTANDING TEAMS IN THE AMERICAN LEAGUE — AND ALONG AMSTERDAM AVENUE IN UPPER NEW YORK CITY, A HUSKY YOUNGSTER WANTED IN ON A SANDLOT BASEBALL GAME.

HEY, FELLAS! HOW'S ABOUT A GAME?

BEAT IT! YOU'RE A SOUTHPAW!

I COULD PLAY FIRST BASE!

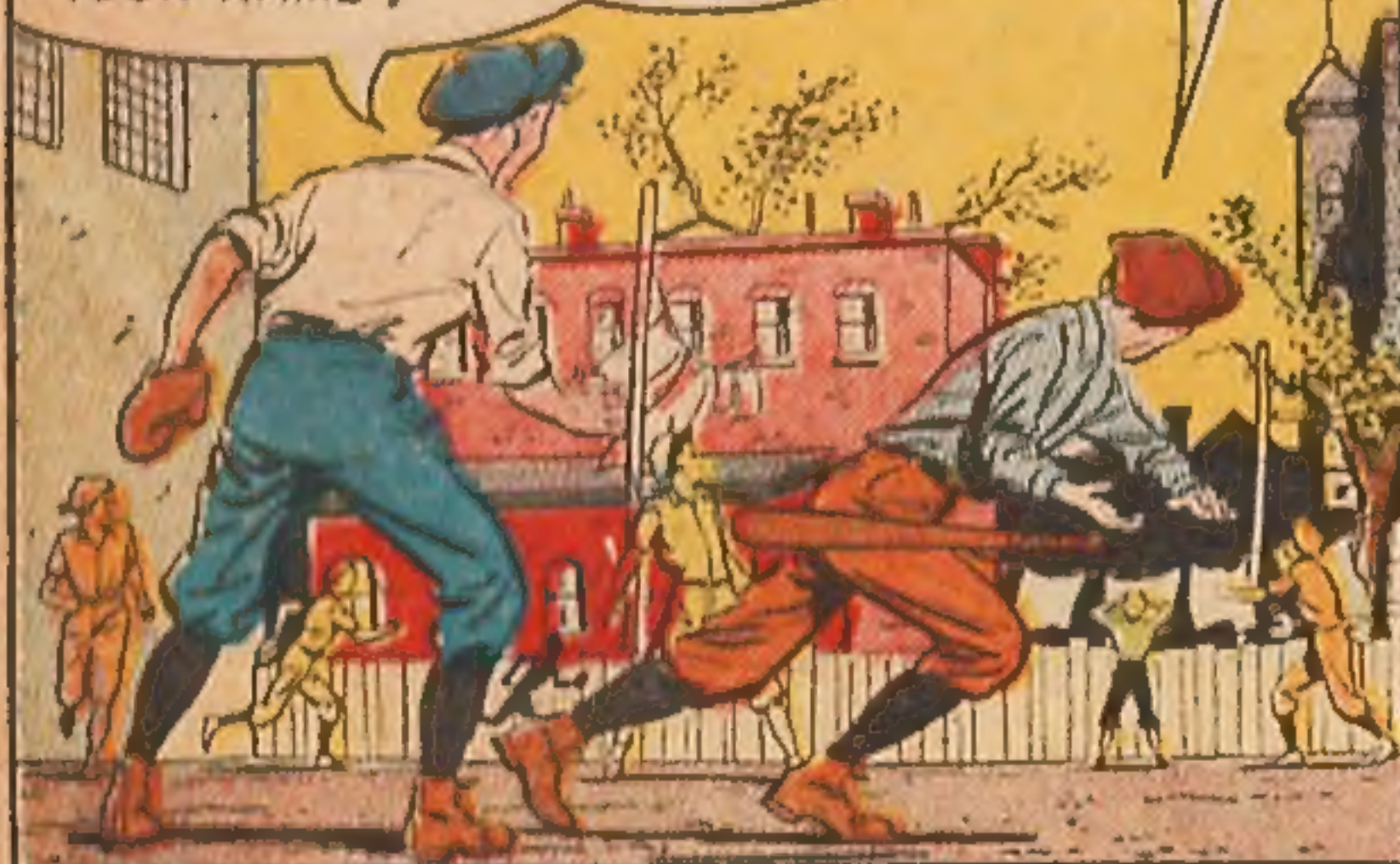
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE — HAL CHASE! YOU'RE TOO SHORT. NOW, G'WAN...! IMAGINE! YOU — A FIRST BASEMAN! WHAT A LAUGH!



BUT ONE DAY THE BOY WHO WAS "TOO SHORT" GOT INTO A GAME ...

WOW! WHAT A CLOUT! HEY, KID — YOU CAN BE ON MY TEAM AFTER THIS! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

GEHRIG — LOU GEHRIG!



AS HE GREW BIGGER AND STRONGER, LOU DISCOVERED THAT HIS HANDS SEEMED MADE TO FIT AROUND A BAT. AT COMMERCE HIGH SCHOOL —

THEY CALL THAT KID THE HIGH SCHOOL BABE RUTH!

HE SURE SMACKS A LONG BALL. BUT SHUCKS — HIGH SCHOOL IS A LOT DIFFERENT FROM PLAYING MAJOR LEAGUE BALL. HE'LL NEVER MAKE IT.



ONE AFTERNOON

MOM! MOM! I'M GOING TO CHICAGO! WE WON THE CITY CHAMPIONSHIP. WE'RE GOING TO PLAY LANE TECH IN THE CUBS' BALL PARK!

CHICAGO? OH, NO! NOT MY LITTLE LOUIE! I WON'T LET YOU!



NOT PLAY? NOT GO TO CHICAGO? BUT WE CAN'T POSSIBLY WIN WITHOUT YOU, LOU! WE WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE! I'LL GO SEE YOUR MOM ...

IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD, COACH!



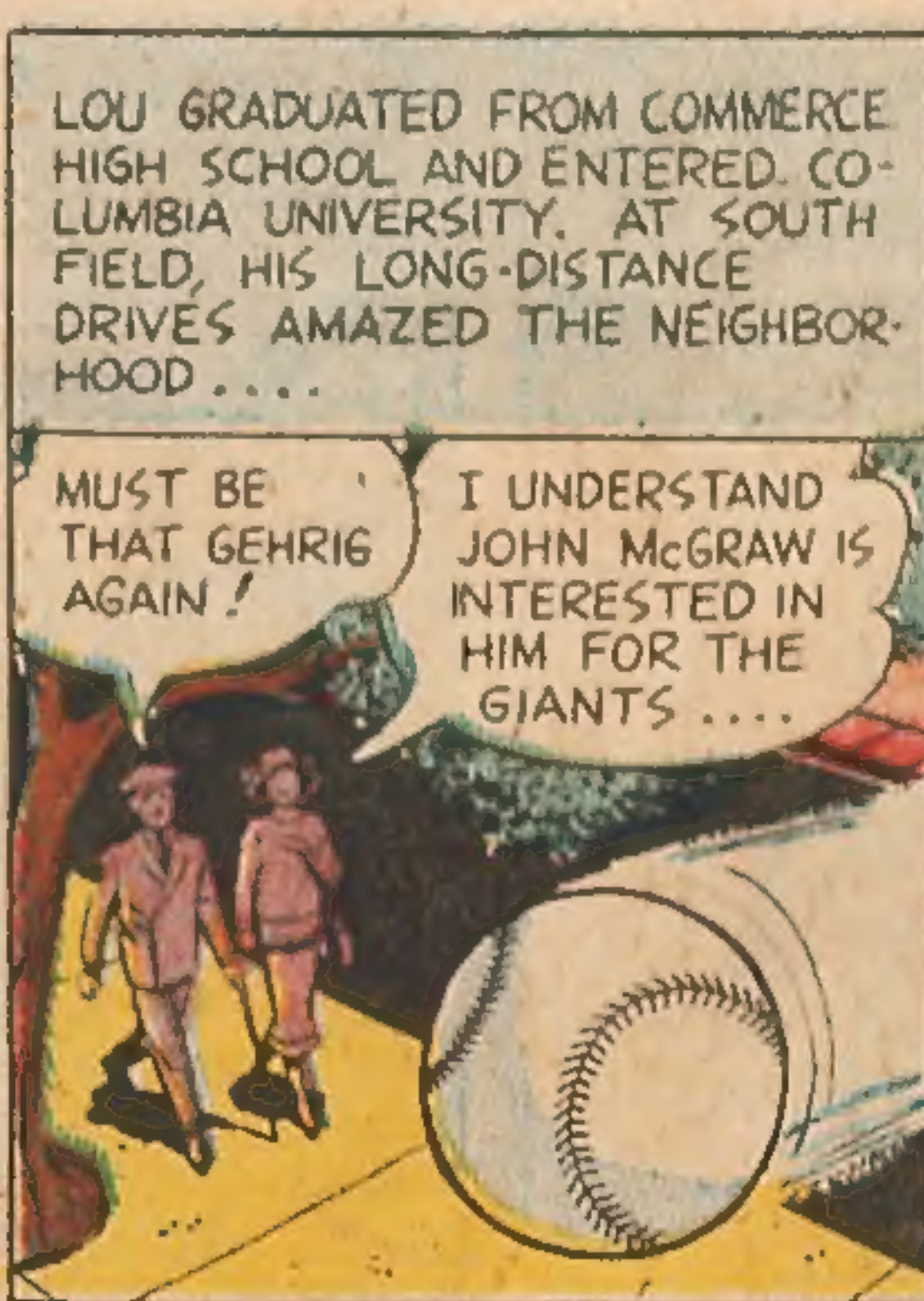
THAT NIGHT IN THE GEHRIG HOME

MRS. GEHRIG, IT'S FOR THE HONOR AND THE GLORY OF LI'L OLD NEW YORK! THESE SPORTSWRITERS WILL TELL YOU —

THAT'S RIGHT, MA'AM! EVER SINCE CHANCE AND HIS CUBS BEAT OUR GIANTS, THE CHICAGO FOLKS AND US HAVE BEEN FEUDING!

YOU WON'T LET US DOWN, WILL YOU?





SOME MONTHS LATER, A COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY BASEBALL COACH WAS WORKING IN HIS OFFICE . . .

HI! DROPPED BY TO FIND OUT WHY LOU GEHRIG ISN'T COMING BACK TO SCHOOL .

HUH? WHAT'S THAT?

THAT'S RIGHT. I SAW LOU PLAYING FIRST BASE FOR HARTFORD. HE'S A PRO NOW. I THOUGHT HE DROPPED OUT -

WHY I'M BUILDING MY ENTIRE TEAM AROUND LOU. HE PITCHES AND PLAYS FIRST BASE AND THE OUTFIELD!

NEXT AFTERNOON, IN THE CONNECTICUT CAPITAL . . .

IT'S LOU ALL RIGHT, BUT HE'S LISTED HERE AS LOU LEWIS! HMMM - I'LL SEE HIM DIRECTLY AFTER THE GAME .

LOU, DON'T THROW YOURSELF AWAY. YOUR POTENTIALITIES ARE TOO GOOD! I CAN TEACH YOU A LOT. RETURN TO COLUMBIA AND LET ME HELP YOU. OF COURSE, YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY OUT OF SPORTS FOR A YEAR!

AS SOON AS I PLAYED ONE GAME FOR HARTFORD I REALIZED I'D MADE A MISTAKE!

I'M SORRY I WASN'T SMARTER. BUT THE THOUGHT OF PLAYING PRO BALL DAZZLED ME!

FORGET IT, LOU. I HAVE BIG THINGS PLANNED FOR YOU!

AT COLUMBIA, LOU PLAYED TACKLE DURING THE FOOTBALL SEASON ON THE VARSITY, AND WHEN SPRING ROLLED AROUND, HE WAS ALWAYS THE FIRST ON THE DIAMOND . . .

HOW ABOUT HITTING A FEW FUNGOES IN FOUL GROUND? I'M NOT TOO SURE OF MY FOOTING WHILE MY EYES ARE UP THERE ON THE BALL.

GLAD TO, LOU!

ONE AFTERNOON, IN THE GAME AGAINST RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, A MAN NAMED PAUL KRICHILL SAT IN THE NEW BRUNSWICK STANDS AND WATCHED A HUSKY YOUNG COLUMBIA PLAYER HIT . . .

I DON'T BELIEVE IT. NOBODY CAN HAVE THAT MUCH POWER -- EXCEPT THE BABE!

SOME HOURS LATER, IN THE OFFICES OF THE NEW YORK YANKEES . . .

OH, HELLO, PAUL. WHERE WERE YOU THIS AFTER-NOON?

ED, I SAW A SECOND BABE RUTH THIS AFTER-NOON! MAN, I'M NOT OVER IT YET!

RELAX, RELAX! YOU'VE HAD A TOUCH OF SUN. YOU'RE PAUL KRICHELL, BASE-BALL SCOUT FOR THE YANKEES. I'M ED BARROW. REMEMBER?

I'M NOT KID-DING, ED. THE KID IS TERRIFIC. I'M GOING AFTER THAT GEHRIG. RUTH AND GEHRIG! MAYBE . . . SOME DAY . . .

AND SO, IN JUNE, 1923 . . .

THEY TELL ME YOU HIT A BALL ONTO THE LIBRARY STEPS FROM SOUTH FIELD.

YES, SIR. I DID THAT, SIR.

THAT ISN'T ALL HE'S DONE! NOW, LISTEN, ED . . .

JUST STAY EASY, LOU. THE BIG BOSS WANTS TO SEE YOU KNOCK A FEW. IT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING. JUST KEEP COOL AND LOOSE . . .

I - I'LL TRY!

HIS HEART SLAMMING IN HIS CHEST, LOU STEPPED OUT ONTO THE HUGE FIELD AT YANKEE STADIUM. HIS EXCITED EYES SAW BABE RUTH . . . WALLY PIPP . . . JUMPING JOE DUGAN . . . HERB PENNOCK . . . AS MILLER HUGGINS LED HIM PLATEWARDS . . .

BABE, LET LOU GEHRIG SWING, WILL YOU? ED BARROW WANTS TO SEE HIM WITH A BAT.

SURE THING, KID!

NONE OF THE YANKEE PLAYERS WHO SAW THE YOUNG, INEXPERIENCED GEHRIG THAT AFTER-NOON WOULD EVER FORGET THOSE BALLS HE HIT INTO THE CENTER AND RIGHT FIELD BLEACHER SEATS. ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR? THEY LOST COUNT, BUT THE COUNT DID NOT MATTER. A MAN NAMED GEHRIG HAD ARRIVED . . .

YOU'LL STAY WITH US FOR A WHILE, LOU. BUT I INTEND TO FARM YOU OUT. YOU HAVE A LOT TO LEARN AROUND FIRST BASE.

YES, SIR. I KNOW THAT. BUT I'M WILLING TO LEARN, AND I WILL LEARN!

LOU WAS FARMED OUT TO HARTFORD OF THE EASTERN LEAGUE. TROUBLED BY HIS FIELDING FAULTS, HE WORKED TIRELESSLY TO CORRECT THEM....

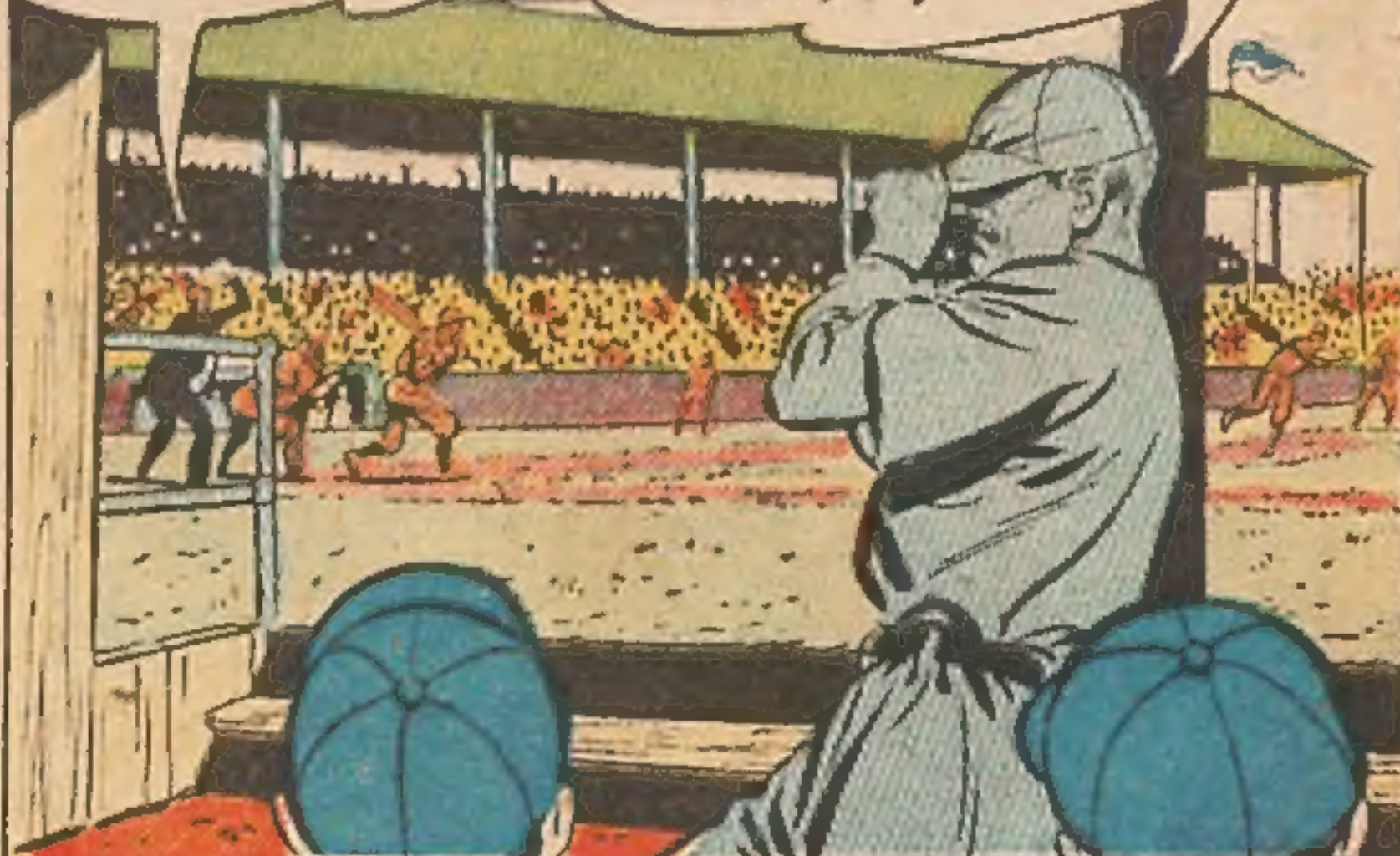
THAT'S IT, JIMMY! NOW I'M GETTING THE HANG OF THOSE SLOW BOUNCERS...



WHEN HIS HITTING SLUMPED OFF, LOU WAS THOROUGHLY MISERABLE....

STRIKE THREE!

ANOTHER BABE RUTH? BAH! HE'S GOING BACK TO THE YANKEES — FAST!



WESTERN UNION

June 14, 1924

Miller Huggins
No. 90 New York Yankees, Inc.
Yankee Stadium, Bronx, N.Y.
Place
Dear Miller, Please come and get your prize package. If he can hit the long ball, I am Cleopatra!



THE NEXT DAY WAS SUNDAY. IN HARTFORD, A HAPPY MANAGER WORE A BIG GRIN...

I DON'T CARE WHAT HE DOES TODAY. TOMORROW HE'LL BE ON A TRAIN BACK TO NOO YAWK!



BUT THAT AFTERNOON, LOU SEEMED TO BE HIMSELF FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE HOURS AND THE DAYS OF PRACTICE WERE PAYING OFF. LOU'S FIELDING WAS SHARP, AND AS FOR HIS BATTING EYE...

I CAUGHT HOLD OF THAT ONE!



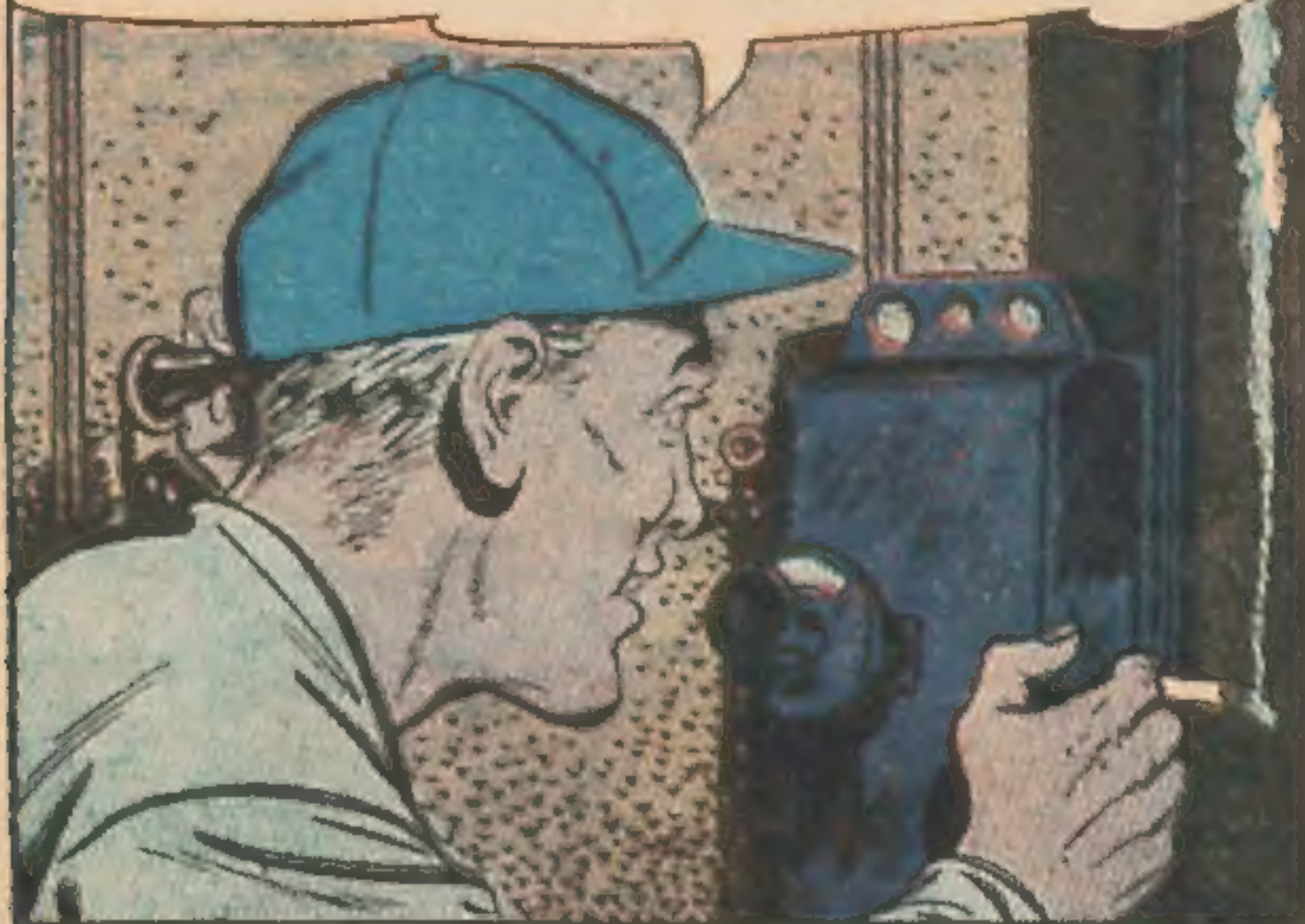
-GULP- A HOME RUN! AND WHAT A HOME RUN!



I GOTTA GET TO A TELEPHONE! I GOTTA!



MILLER HUGGINS? NOT IN? I WANT TO LEAVE WORD... TELL HIM TO TEAR UP THAT TELEGRAM FROM ME WITHOUT READING IT! I'VE CHANGED MY MIND! I'VE GOT A PLAYER WHO CAN HIT THE LONGEST BALL I EVER SAW!



LOU FINISHED HIS FIRST FULL SEASON AT HARTFORD, 1924, WITH A .369 BATTING AVERAGE, AND 37 FOUR BASE WALLOPS! THE YANKEES BROUGHT HIM TO THEIR 1925 SPRING TRAINING BASE, BUT HE WAS STILL YOUNG AND GREEN...

I WISH I COULD GET INTO A GAME. I'D NEVER LET THEM TAKE ME OUT....!

STOP FIDGETING, KID. YOU'LL BE PLAYING, ONE OF THESE DAYS!



MARCH...APRIL...MAY...JUNE, ONE AFTERNOON IN THE LOCKER ROOM...

I WISH YOU'D STOP SLIDING UP AND DOWN SO MUCH ON THAT BENCH, LOU! THIS IS THE FOURTH PAIR OF UNIFORM PANTS I'VE HAD TO GIVE YOU!



THEN, ON JUNE 1, 1925, WALLY PIPP, REGULAR YANKEE FIRST SACKER CAME DOWN WITH A SPLITTING HEADACHE, AND AS FIELDING PRACTICE ENDED THAT DAY...

MIGHT AS WELL STAY THERE FOR THE GAME TOO, LOU. WALLY'S SICK!



DURING THE GAME, THE FIRST OF A RECORD STRING OF 2130 CONSECUTIVE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GAMES THAT LOU GEHRIG WAS TO PLAY, HE WAS RUNNING FROM FIRST TO SECOND WHEN...

TIME!
TIME!



DO YOU KNOW ME, LOU? WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

SHUCKS, MR. HUGGINS - IT'S GOING TO TAKE MORE THAN A SOCK ON THE NOGGIN WITH A BASEBALL TO GET ME OUT OF THIS GAME! I'VE WAITED TOO LONG FOR MY CHANCE!



NEITHER MILLER HUGGINS NOR LOU REALIZED THAT JUNE AFTERNOON IN 1925 WHAT PROPHETIC WORDS LOU HAD SPOKEN! "MORE THAN A SOCK ON THE NOGGIN!" IT WAS, INDEED, TO BE SOMETHING WORSE THAN THAT, THAT WAS TO SNAP HIS GREAT STRING OF CONSECUTIVE BALL GAMES, SOMETHING FAR WORSE..!

AS THE SEASON WORE ON, LOU BEGAN POUNDING THE BALL WITH INCREASING POWER.

NO USE, JOE!

YEAH. HE REALLY TIED INTO *THAT* ONE!



LOOKS LIKE WE MIGHT HAVE A CHANCE NEXT YEAR, HUG!

BABE, I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING I WOULDN'T TELL ANYBODY ELSE. IF THE YANKS DON'T MAKE IT IN '26, I'LL EAT MY SHIRT!



AT THE END OF HIS FIRST FULL SEASON, LOU HAD A .295 BATTING AVERAGE, WITH 21 HOME RUNS. BUT HE LOOKED FORWARD TO BETTER THINGS...

I'M GOING TO KEEP IN SHAPE, HUG. I'M NOT PUTTING ON ANY EXTRA WEIGHT OVER THE WINTER!

IF YOU STICK TO THAT, BOY - MAYBE YOU'LL BE PLAYING IN A WORLD SERIES BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.



SOME MONTHS LATER, AT THE YANKEES' SPRING TRAINING CAMP AT ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA...

LOU, MEET TWO INFIELD PROSPECTS - TONY LAZZERI AND MARK KOENIG. WE HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR THEM.

HIYA, FELLOWS! I WISH YOU ALL THE LUCK IN THE WORLD!



THE SEASON OF 1926 WAS TO SEE THE BIRTH OF THE GREATEST ONE-TWO PUNCH IN THE ENTIRE HISTORY OF BASEBALL! — *BABE RUTH* AND *LOU GEHRIG*! PITCHERS QUAILED WHEN THESE TWO TOTED THEIR BIG BATS PLATEWARD! IN 1926 LOU AND THE BABE COMBINED TO HIT 63 HOME RUNS. IN 1927, THE TOTAL WAS AN AMAZING 107 HOME RUNS — BY ONLY TWO PLAYERS!

THAT FALL THE YANKEES MET THE CARDINALS IN A DRAMATIC WORLD SERIES. THE SCORE WAS 3-2, IN FAVOR OF THE CARDINALS, BASES FULL, IN THE SEVENTH INNING OF THE SEVENTH GAME...

WHAT'S HORNSBY DOING, JIM?

BRINGING IN ONE OF THE GREATEST PITCHERS OF 'EM ALL, LOU: OLD PETE-GROVER CLEVELAND ALEXANDER!



WITH BASES FULL OF YANKEES — LOU WAS ON FIRST VIA A WALK — ALEXANDER STRUCK OUT TONY LAZZERI FOR ONE OF THE HIGH SPOTS OF ALL WORLD SERIES GAMES...



WHO MADE THE ONLY UNASSISTED TRIPLE PLAY IN WORLD SERIES HISTORY?

BEATEN IN THE WORLD SERIES BY THE CARDINALS, IT WAS A GRIM GROUP OF YANKEES WHO GATHERED AT SPRING TRAINING....

THIS YEAR WE'LL GO ALL THE WAY, BABE!

WE SURE WILL, KID. WE'LL SHOW THE LEAGUE SOME **REAL** HITTING!



LOU CERTAINLY IS WORKING HARD AT THIS TRAINING!

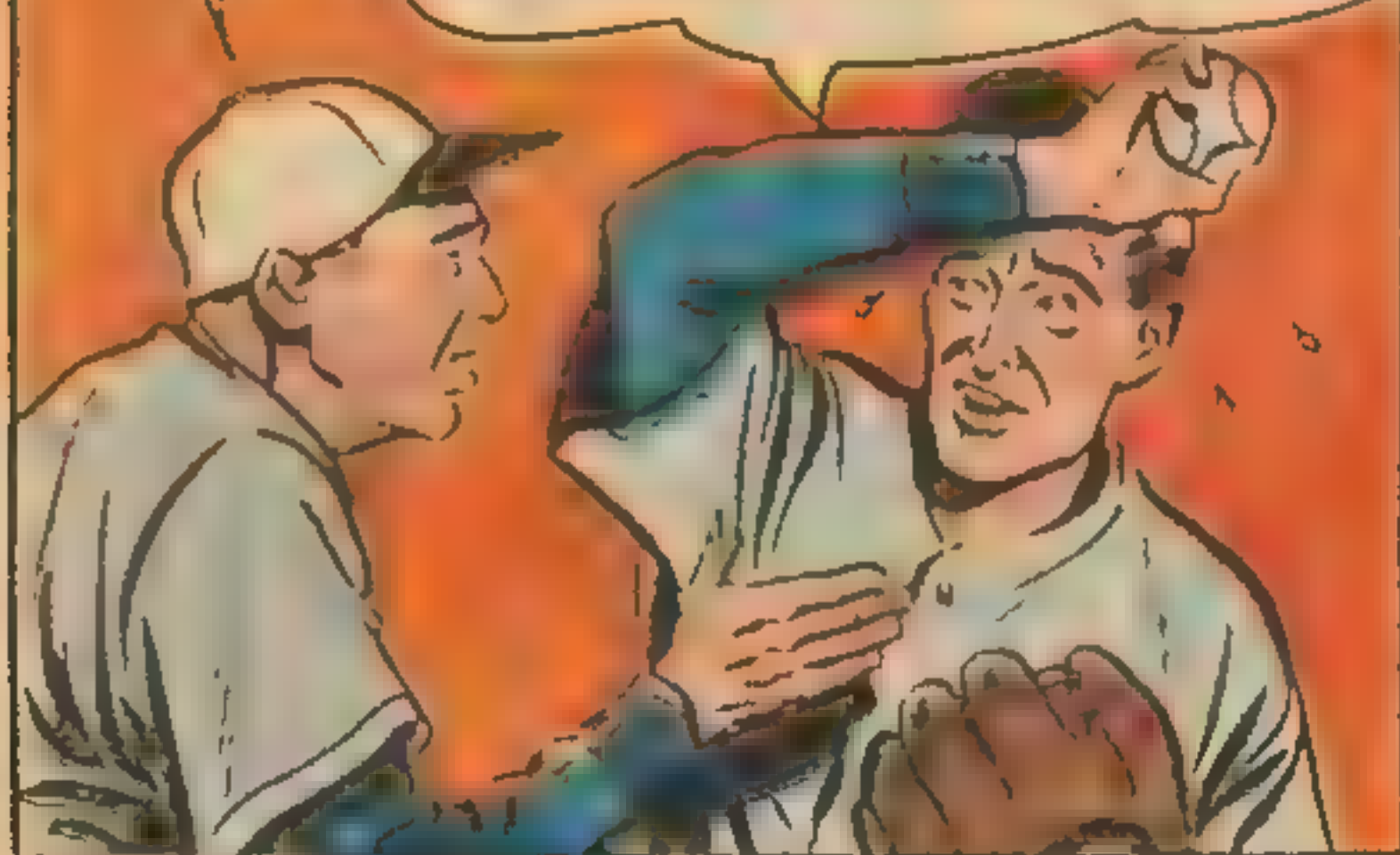
HE WANTS TO WIN THE SERIES FOR SURE!



IT WAS A RUNAWAY YEAR FOR THE YANKS. THEY WERE OFF AND WINGING —

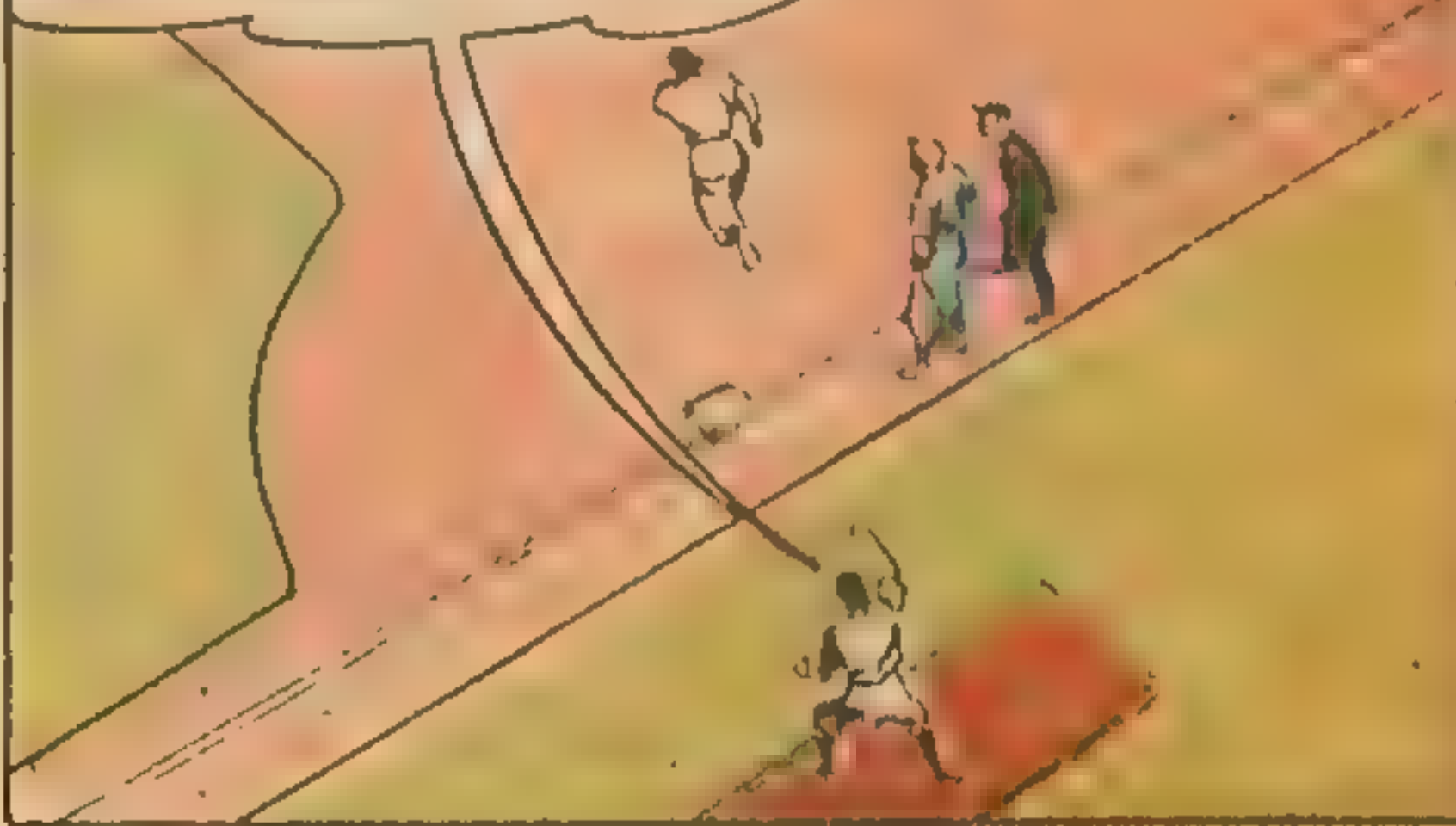
WALK THE BABE!

WHAT? WITH THAT GUY GEHRIG FOLLOWING HIM IN THE BATTING ORDER? I'D RATHER *PITCH* TO RUTH. THIS MIGHT BE MY **LUCKY** DAY!



WITH THE BABE BLASTING HOME RUNS AS NEVER BEFORE, LOU FOUND HIS OWN BATTING EYE, AND HIS BROAD SHOULDERS COOPERATED TO KEEP HIM WITHIN PACE OF THE RECORD-BREAKING RUTH!

ATTA BOY, LOU! THIS'LL BE NUMBER FIFTEEN!



THE NEWSPAPERS COINED MANY WORDS TO DESCRIBE THE 1927 YANKEES — **MURDERER'S ROW!** **FIVE O'CLOCK LIGHTNING!** **THE GREATEST TEAM OF ALL TIME!** BY JULY 4TH, THEY HAD THE PENNANT SAFELY TUCKED AWAY, TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. ON SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1927, RUTH HIT HIS 60TH HOME RUN OFF ZACHARY OF THE SENATORS. FORGOTTEN WAS THE FACT THAT LOU GEHRIG HAD GARNERED 49 ROUND-TRIPPERS...

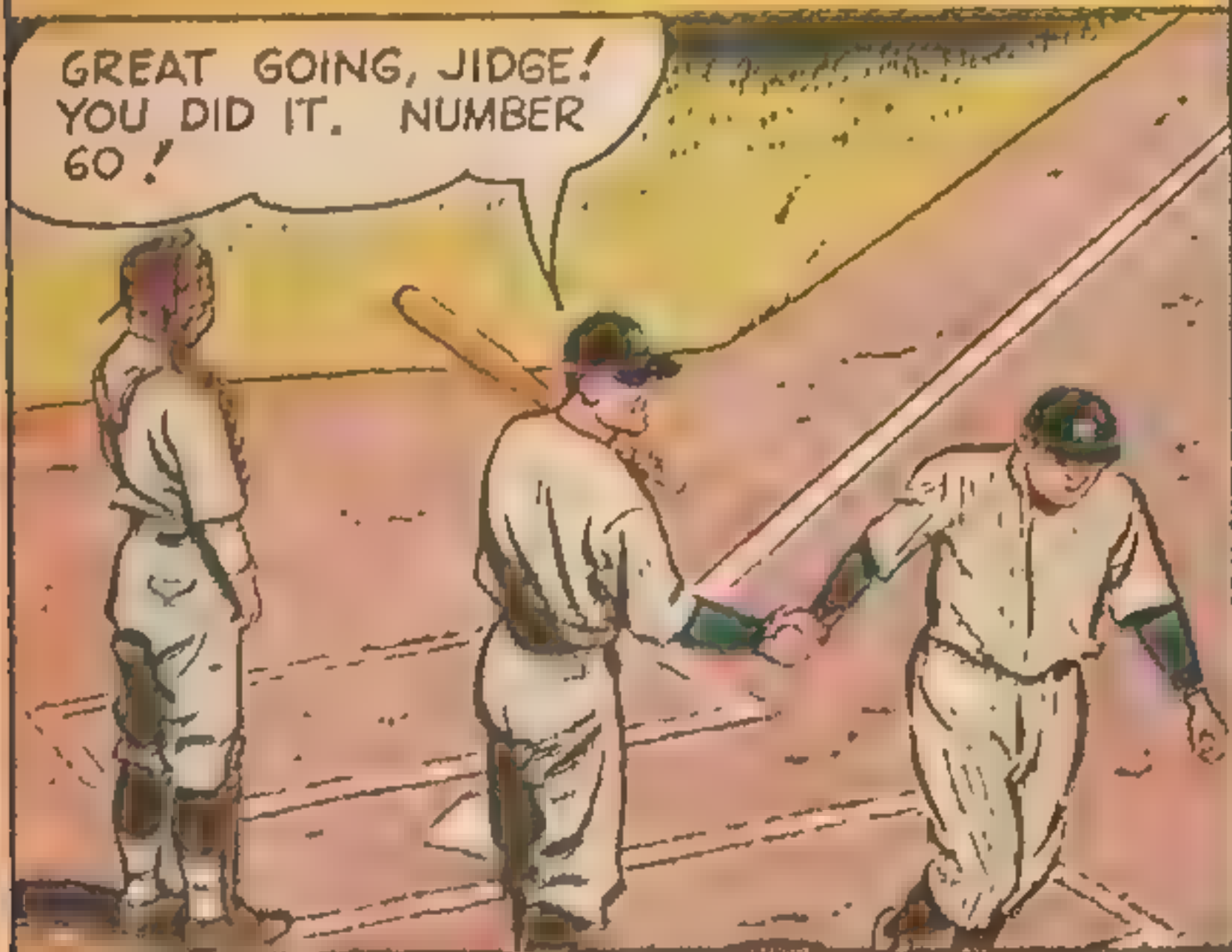
EVERYBODY TALKS UP THE BABE, LOU. YET IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU, HE WOULDN'T HAVE SET HIS RECORD. PITCHERS CAN'T SEE THE SENSE OF WALKING HIM WHEN YOU COME TO BAT AFTER HIM.

SO WHAT? I'M LUCKY TO BE PLAYING AT ALL ON THIS TEAM. DON'T EVER FORGET THAT!



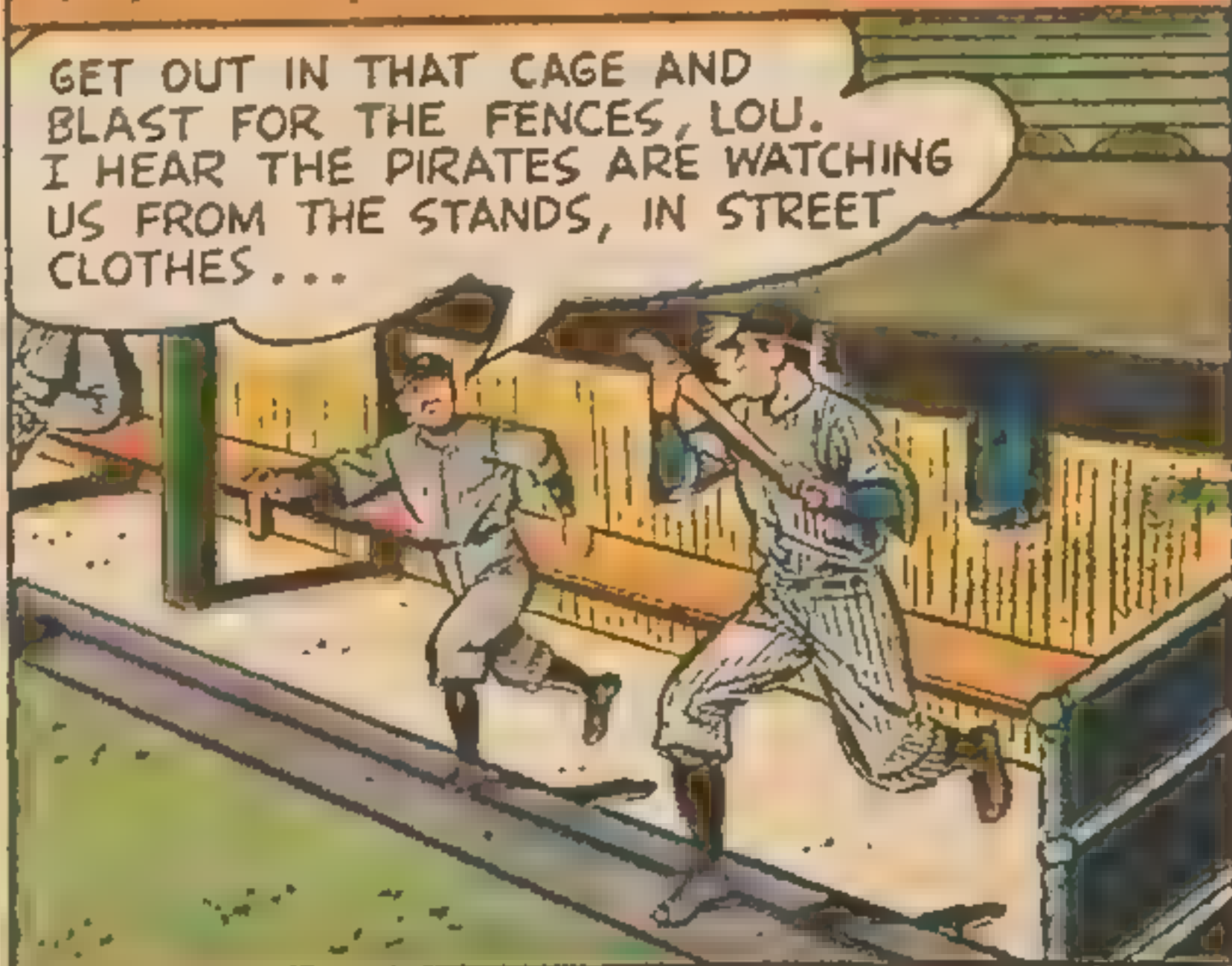
THERE WAS NO JEALOUSY IN LOU GEHRIG'S GIANT FRAME. HE WAS THE FIRST TO CONGRATULATE THE BABE...

GREAT GOING, JIDGE! YOU DID IT. NUMBER 60!



INTO THE WORLD SERIES WITH THE PIRATES WENT THE YANKS. IN PITTSBURGH, BEFORE THE FIRST GAME, THE TEAM WAS AT PRACTICE...

GET OUT IN THAT CAGE AND BLAST FOR THE FENCES, LOU. I HEAR THE PIRATES ARE WATCHING US FROM THE STANDS, IN STREET CLOTHES...



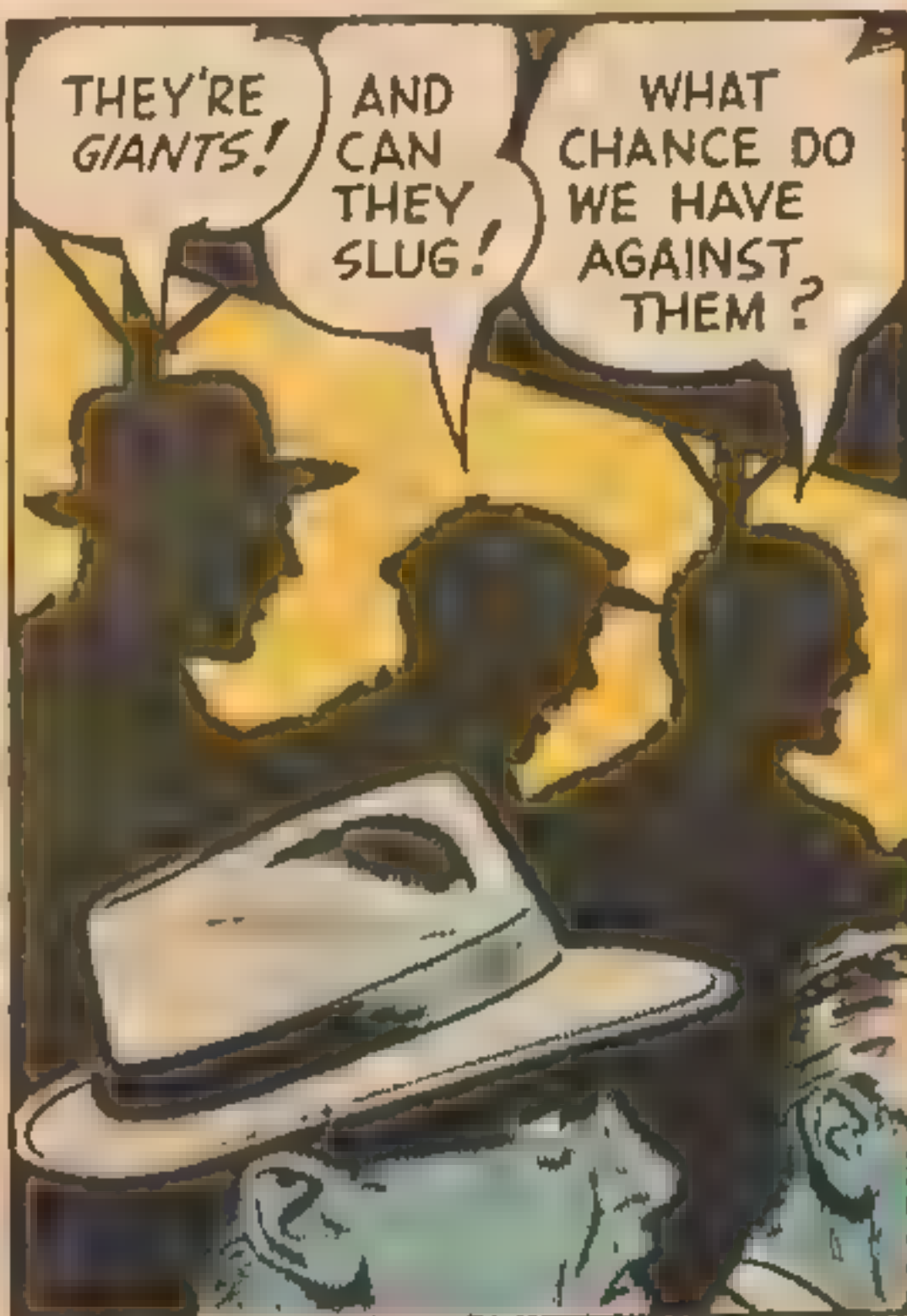
THAT MAKES SIX IN A ROW OVER THE FENCE. THAT'LL SHOW THESE PIRATES WE MEAN BUSINESS!



THEY'RE GIANTS!

AND CAN THEY SLUG!

WHAT CHANCE DO WE HAVE AGAINST THEM?



IT WAS FOUR STRAIGHT FOR A WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP—BUT LOU WAS A SAD BOY IN THE LOCKER ROOM...

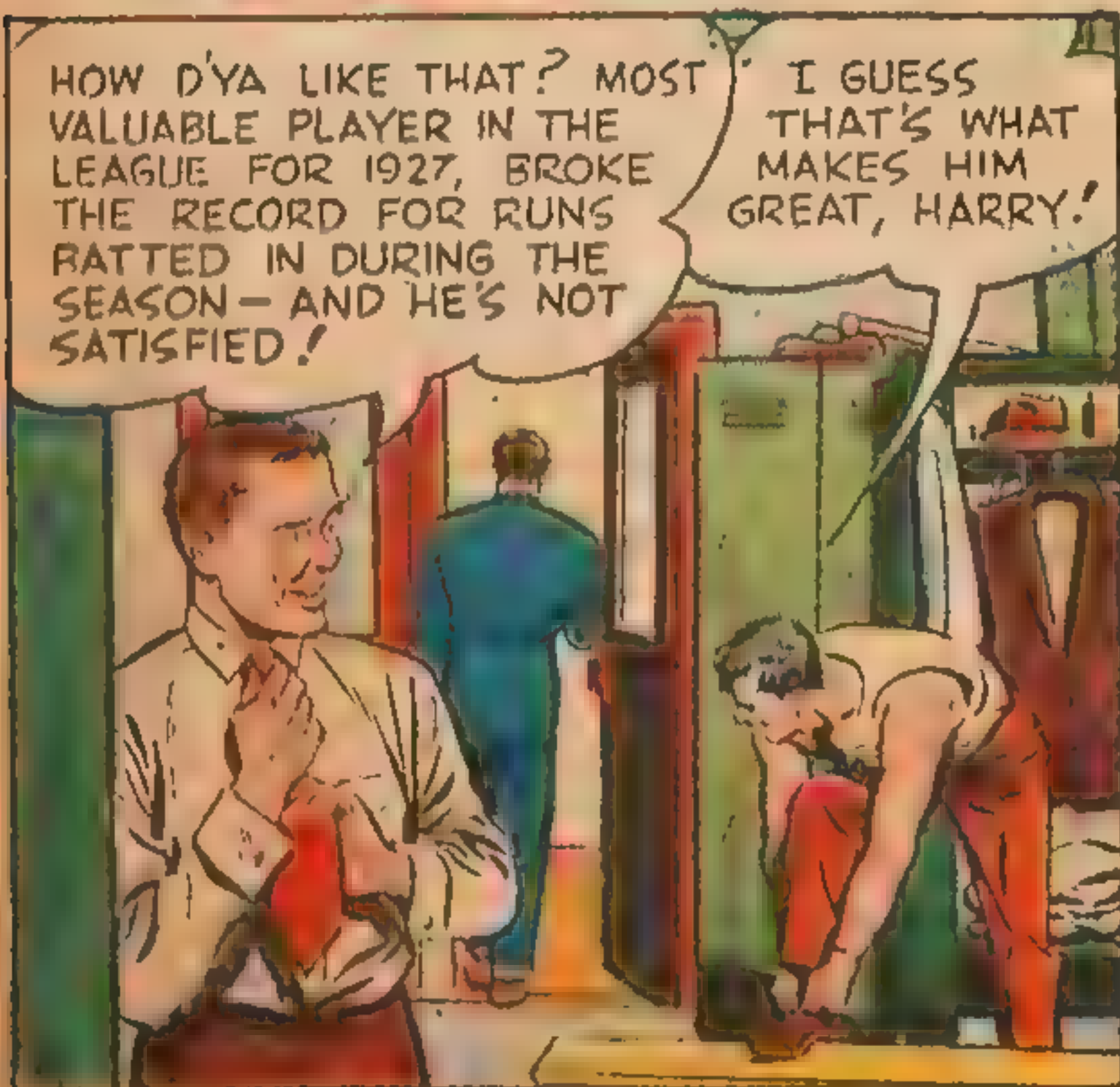
YOU LOOK IN THE DUMPS, LOU. WHAT'S WRONG? WE WON!

SURE, HARRY. BUT I DIDN'T GET A SINGLE HOME RUN! MAYBE I'M SLIPPING. I'LL HAVE TO WORK HARDER NEXT SEASON!



HOW D'YA LIKE THAT? MOST VALUABLE PLAYER IN THE LEAGUE FOR 1927, BROKE THE RECORD FOR RUNS RATTED IN DURING THE SEASON—AND HE'S NOT SATISFIED!

I GUESS THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM GREAT, HARRY!



LOU, HOLD OUT FOR THIRTY THOUSAND NEXT YEAR. YOU'RE THE BEST FIRST BASEMAN IN BASEBALL. THE COLONEL* WILL GIVE IT TO YOU!

THANKS, BABE. I'LL REMEMBER YOUR ADVICE!



* COLONEL JACOB RUPPERT, OWNER OF THE YANKEES.

LOU WAS REALLY RUGGED. FOR EXAMPLE, ONE WINTER DAY, AT THE YANKEE OFFICES...

BRRR... IT'S COLD!

I'M HITTING OUT OF THIS TOWN, SOON AS I SIGN MY CONTRACT.

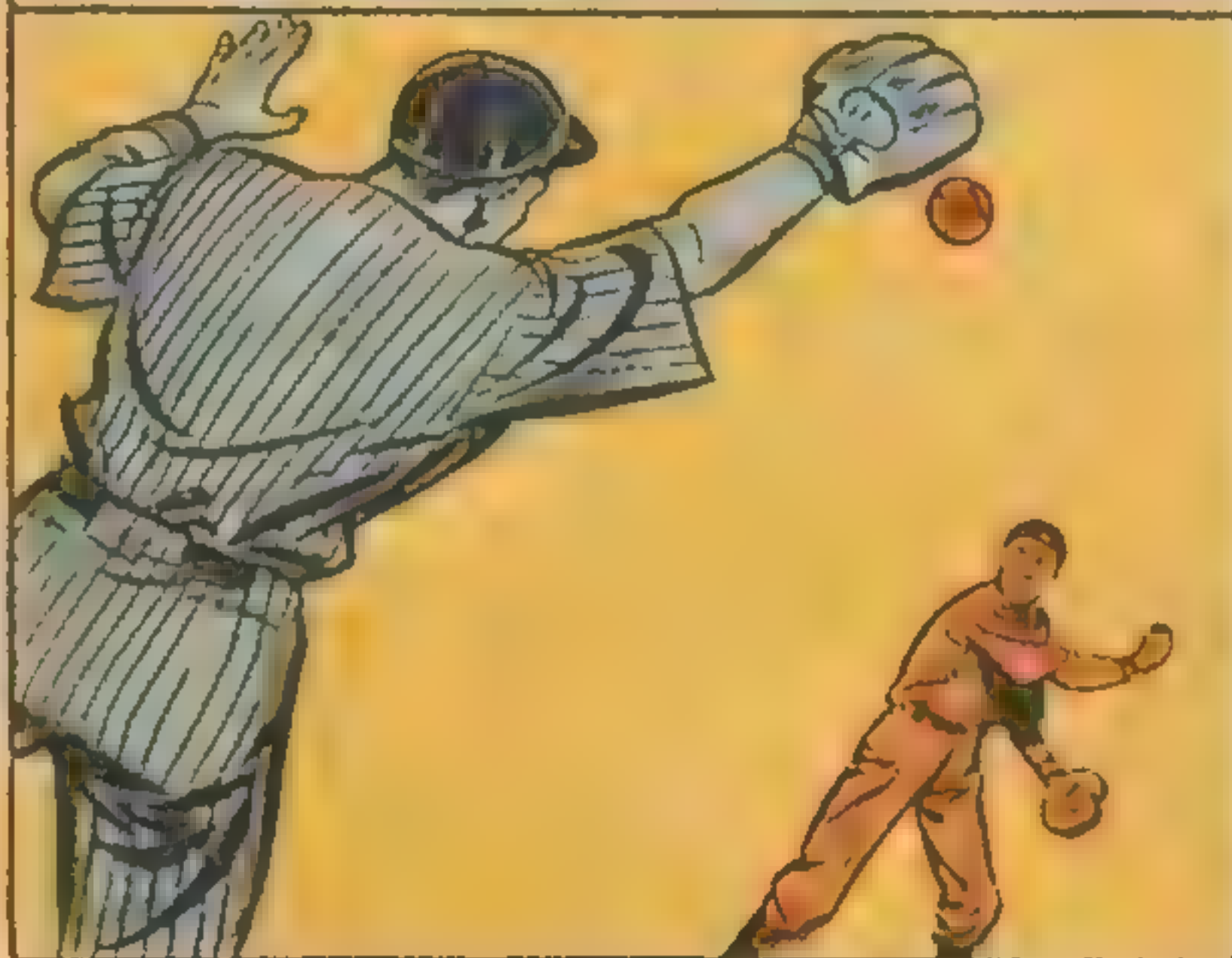


-GULP- HEY, FELLAS - LOOK! IT'S LOU - IN HIS SHIRTSLEEVES!

SURE I'M IN MY SHIRTSLEEVES! YOU DON'T THINK IT'S COLD DO YOU?

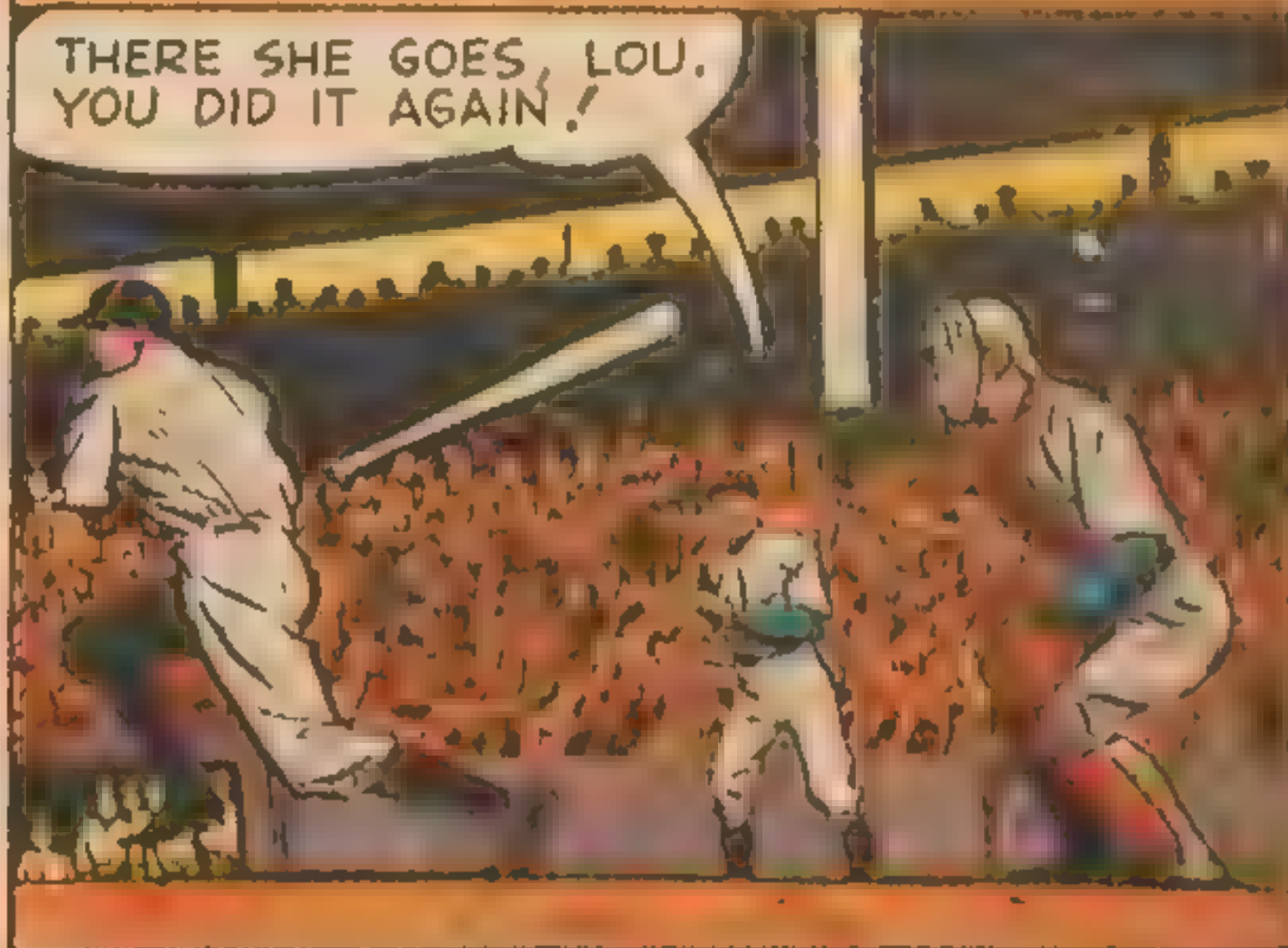


IN 1928, THE YANKEES CONTINUED TO ROLL. A NEW CATCHER, A SHY YOUNG GIANT NAMED BILL DICKEY, JOINED THE CLUB....



A STRONG, FINE FRIENDSHIP DEVELOPED BETWEEN LOU AND BILL WHILE LOU WAS SMASHING BASEBALLS OVER ALL THE FENCES OF THE LEAGUE...

THERE SHE GOES, LOU. YOU DID IT AGAIN!



THE 1928 PENNANT RACE WAS ANOTHER WALKAWAY. WITH LOU BANGING AWAY AT A .374 CLIP, WITH 142 RUNS BATTED IN, THE BRONX BOMBERS WON FOR THE THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR.. AND, ON THE "VICTORY TRAIN",...

COME ON, GANG!



THREE STRAIGHT! THREE STRAIGHT!

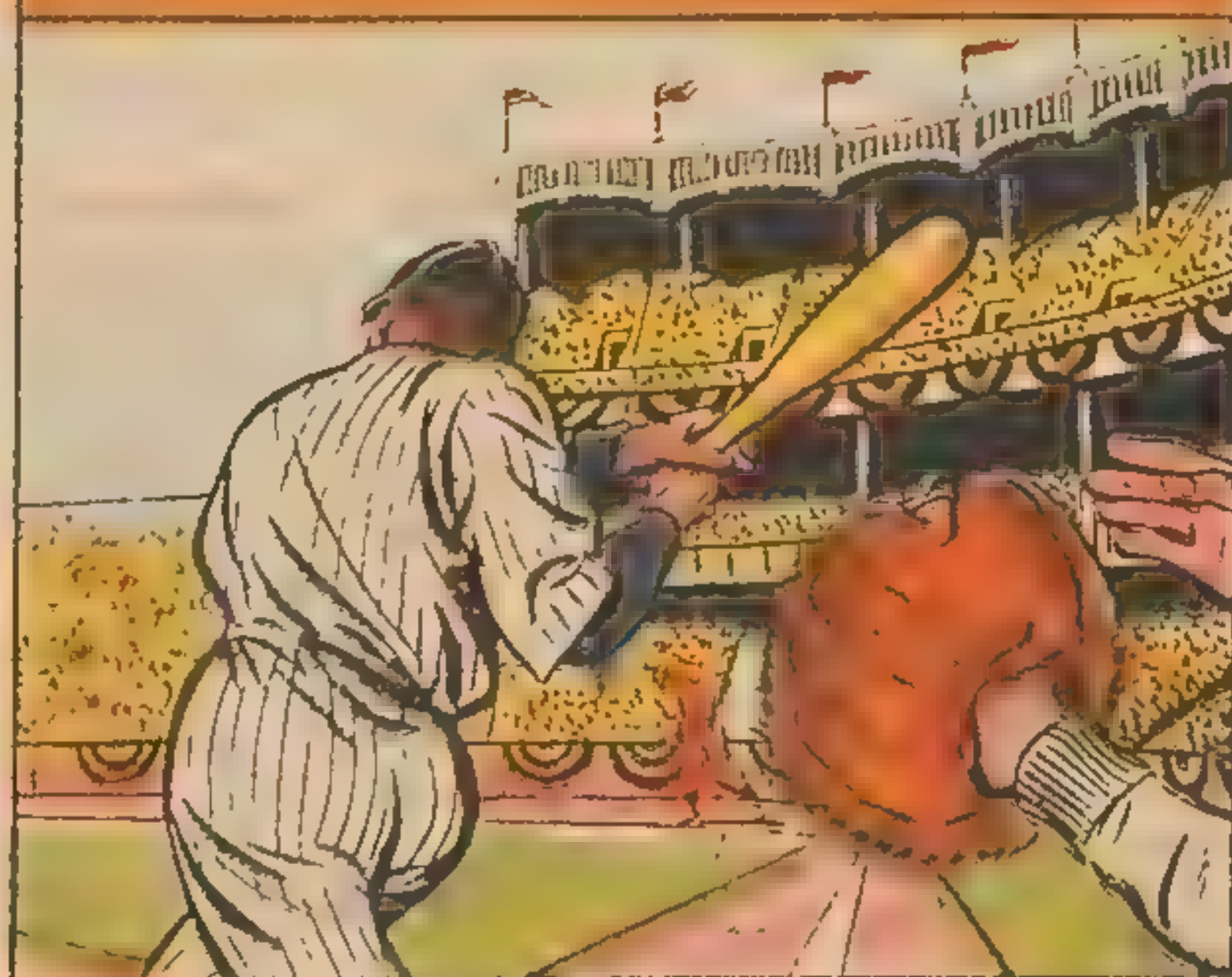
CARDINALS - HERE WE COME!



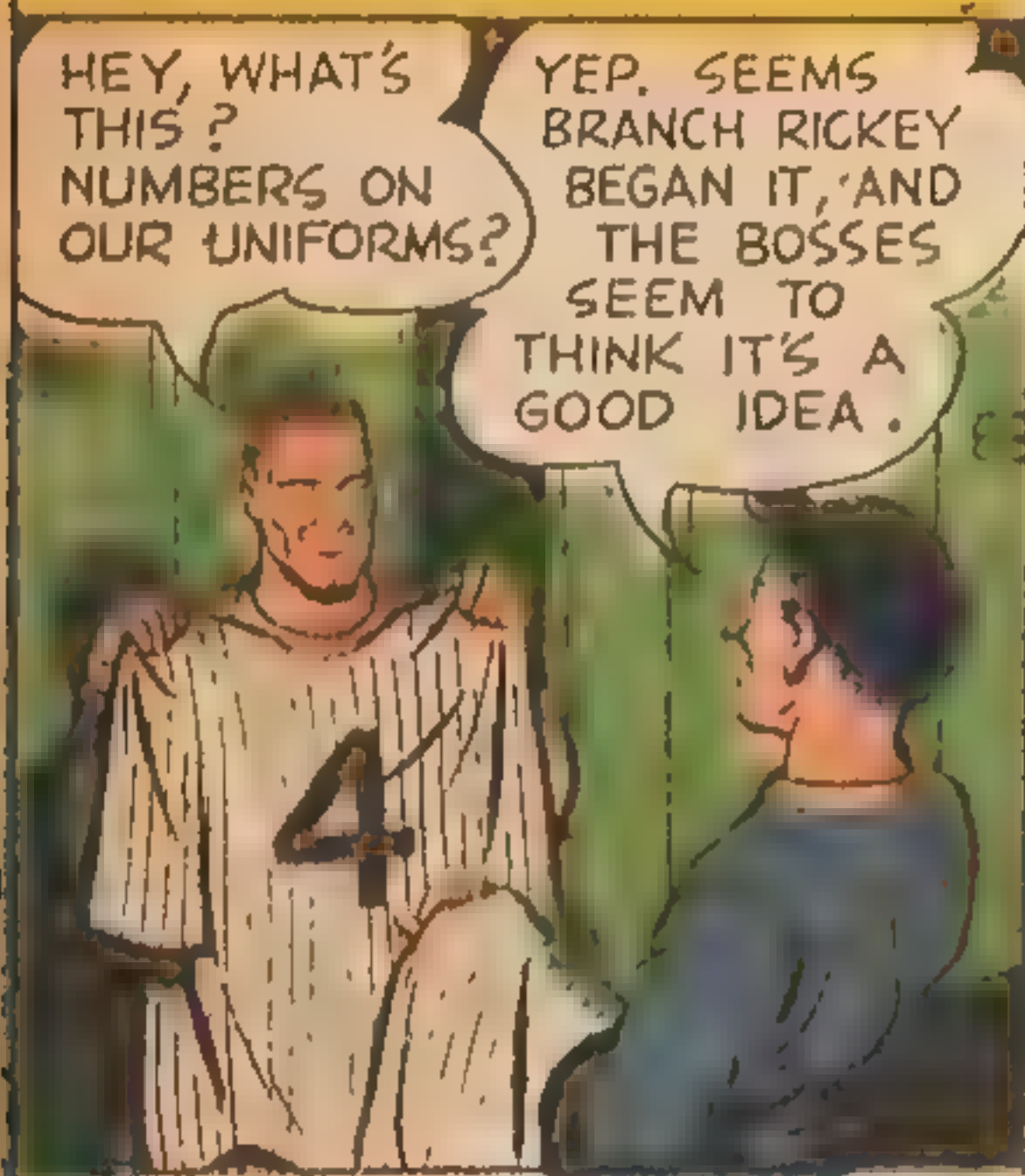
EVEN THE DIGNIFIED COLONEL RUPPERT HAD TO LOSE HIS SHIRT IN THAT WILD, GLEEFUL NIGHT...



THE WORLD SERIES? A PERSONAL TRIUMPH FOR LOU! BATTING AVERAGE? .545! HOME RUNS? FOUR! SIX HITS FOR NINETEEN TOTAL BASES!



THE NEXT SPRING, IN 1929, A SURPRISE AWAITED LOU....



YOUR NUMBER'S THREE, HEY, JUDGE?

THAT'S RIGHT, KID. I BAT THIRD IN THE LINEUP, YOU BAT FOURTH - THE CLEANUP SLOT!

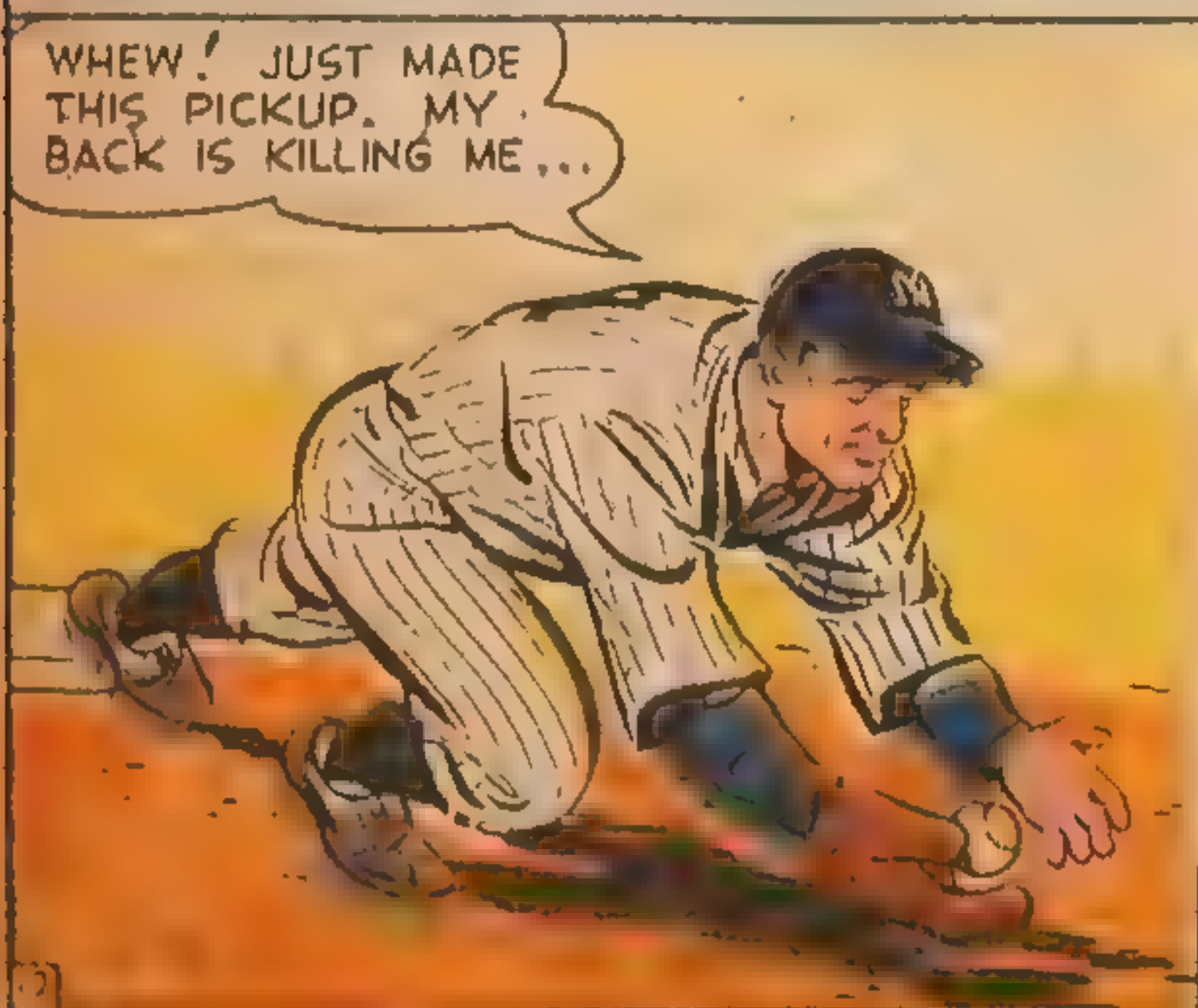


YOU PLAYERS READ THE PAPERS? SEEMS THEY WANT TO BREAK US UP. THEY SAY WE'RE TOO GOOD!

SURE WE'RE TOO GOOD! WE'LL WIN OUR FOURTH STRAIGHT PENNANT THIS YEAR!

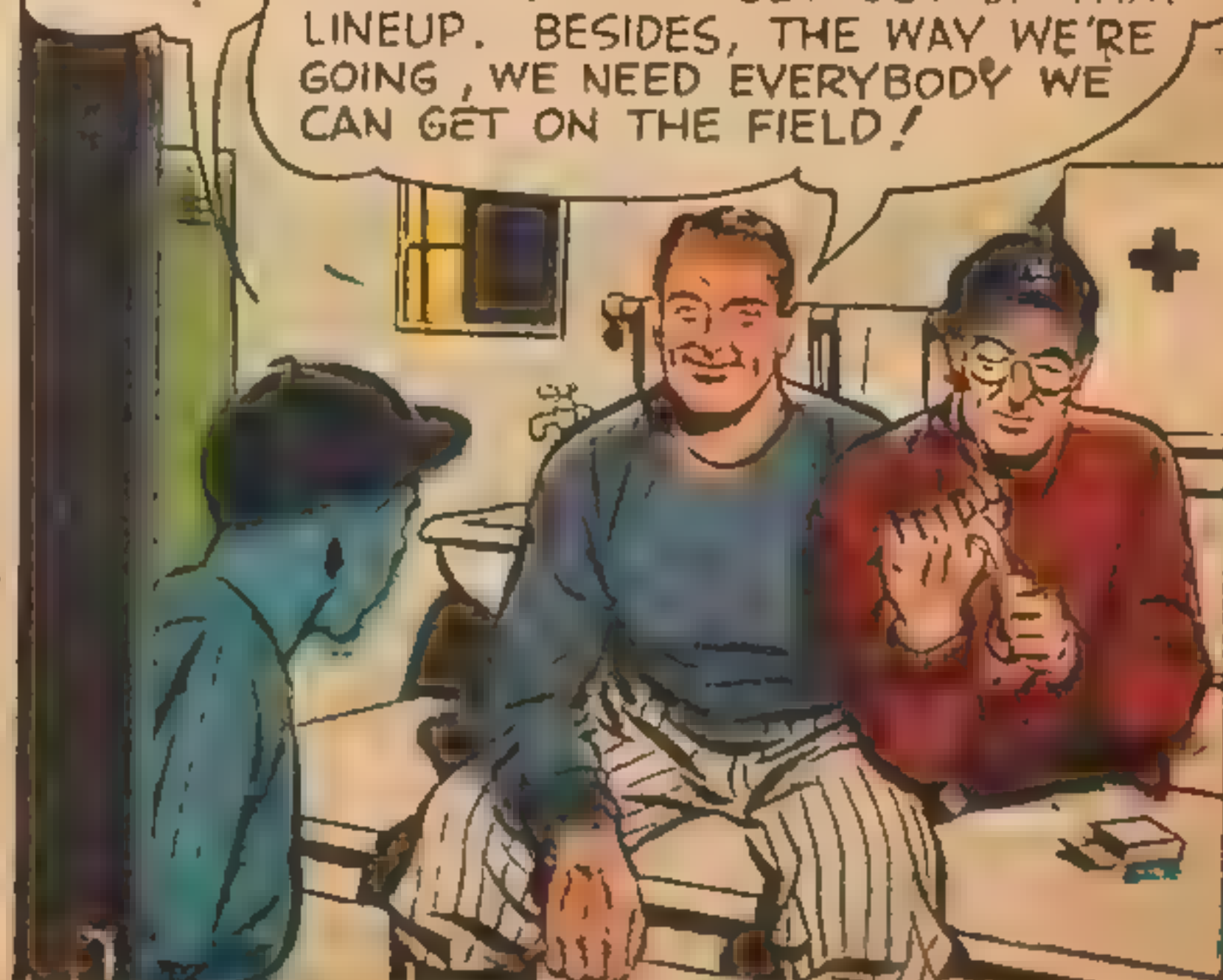


BUT OLD MAN JINX -- BY WAY OF INJURIES --- STRUCK AT THE BRONX BOMBERS....



THUMB HURT, LOU?

YOU BET, HUG! BUT I'M GOING TO PLAY. I'LL HAVE TO BE MIGHTY, MIGHTY SICK TO GET OUT OF THAT LINEUP. BESIDES, THE WAY WE'RE GOING, WE NEED EVERYBODY WE CAN GET ON THE FIELD!



WHAT PITCHER WON OVER TWO HUNDRED GAMES IN BOTH THE AMERICAN AND THE NATIONAL LEAGUES?

THE YANKEES WERE FINISHED AS A CONTENDER, THAT YEAR. THE ATHLETICS UNDER CONNIE MACK WERE MOVING FAST, AND THE BOMBERS WERE TIRED. THEN ON SEPT. 25..

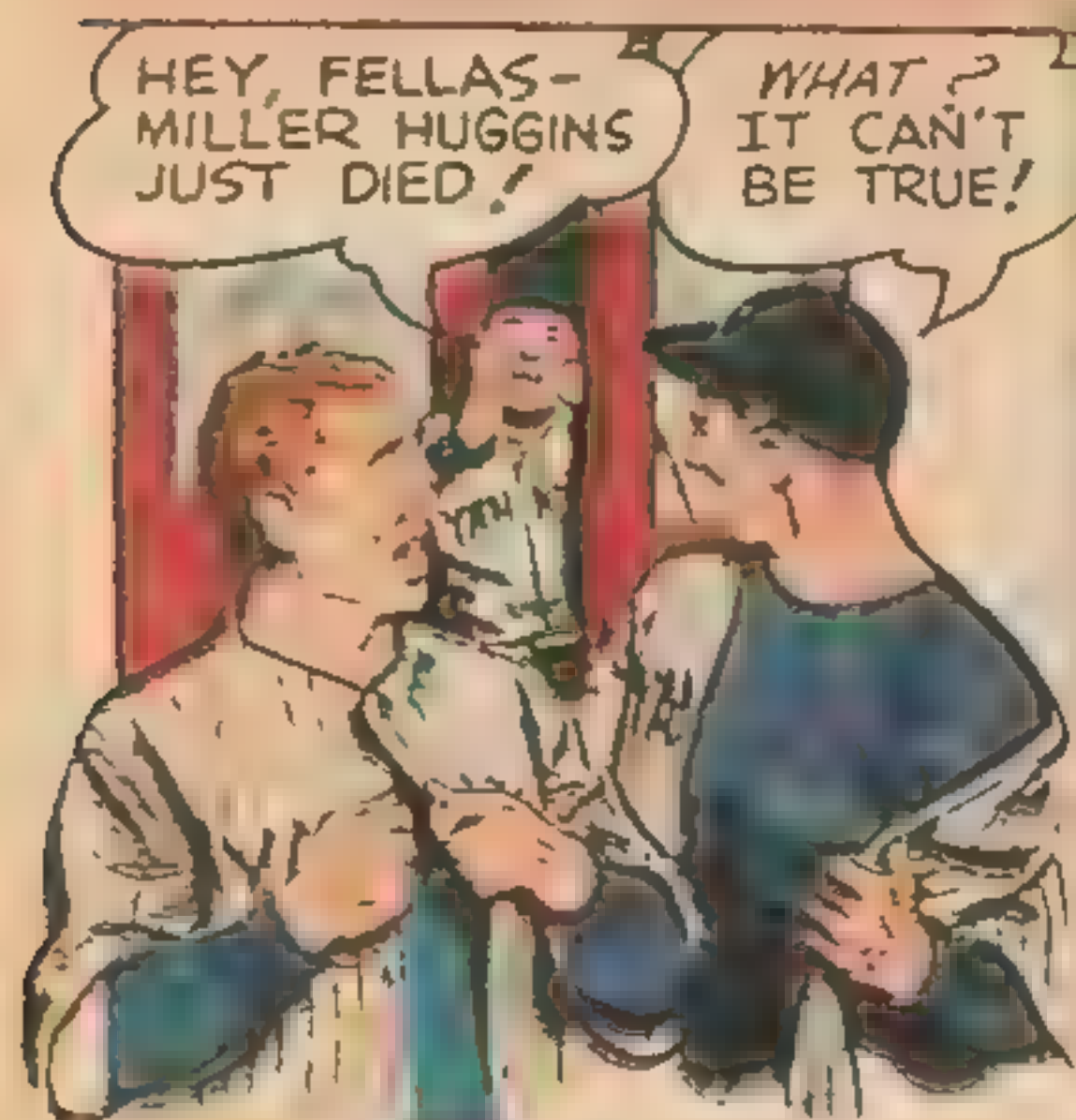
HE WAS A GREAT MANAGER, BABE.

HE SURE WAS, KID! A REAL GREAT ONE!

DURING THE 1930 SEASON, UNDER BOB SHAWKEY AS MANAGER, LOU CLOUTED .379, WITH 41 HOME RUNS AND 174 RUNS BATTED IN--YET THE YANKEES FINISHED THIRD..

HEY, FELLAS-- MILLER HUGGINS JUST DIED!

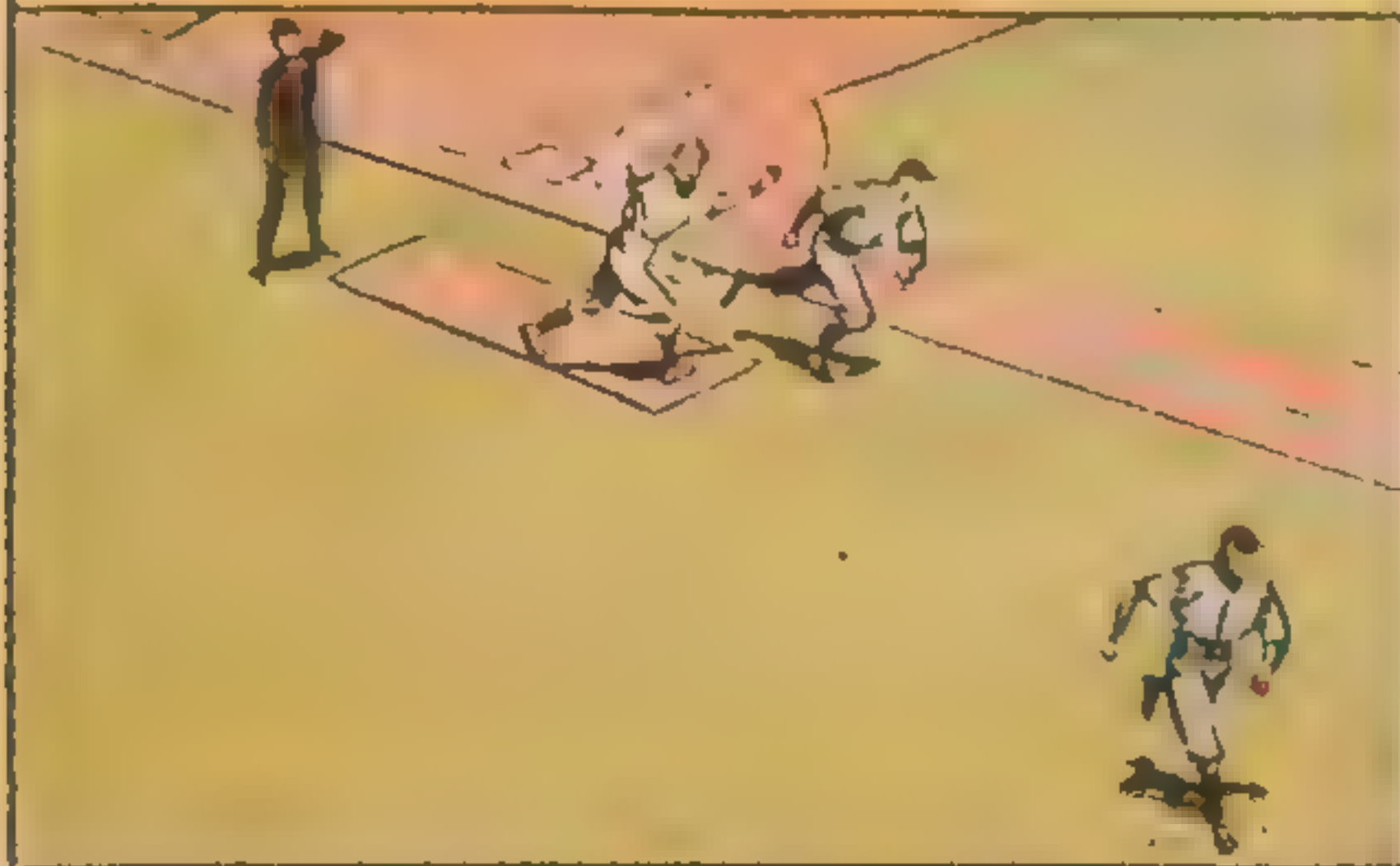
WHAT? IT CAN'T BE TRUE!



IN 1931, LOU ESTABLISHED A MODERN RUNS-BATTED-IN RECORD WITH 184. THE UNDISPUTED HOME RUN CROWN WOULD HAVE BEEN HIS EXCEPT FOR AN AFTERNOON WHEN HE HIT ONE INTO THE STANDS THAT BOUNCED BACK. AS LOU WAS RUNNING HIS HIT HOME, A YANKEE BASERUNNER TURNED TOWARD THE DUGOUT...

YOU'RE OUT, GEHRIG-- YOU PASSED THE BASERUNNER! I DON'T KNOW *WHY* HE LEFT THE BASE-PATH, BUT HE DID AND YOU RAN PAST HIM! SINCE THERE WERE TWO OUT ALREADY, YOU GET NO CREDIT FOR THE HOME RUN!

BUT-- BUT...



I'M SORRY, LOU. I THOUGHT THE OUTFIELDER HAD CAUGHT THAT BALL FOR THE THIRD OUT.

FORGET IT. WE CAN ALL MAKE A MISTAKE!

LOU ONLY TIED THE BABE, WITH 46 ROUND-TRIPPERS, AS A RESULT OF HIS "LOST HOMER". BUT TO MAKE UP FOR THAT DISAPPOINTMENT...

ON BEHALF OF THE SPORTING NEWS, LOU--WE ARE NAMING YOU THE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER IN THE AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR THE YEAR 1931!

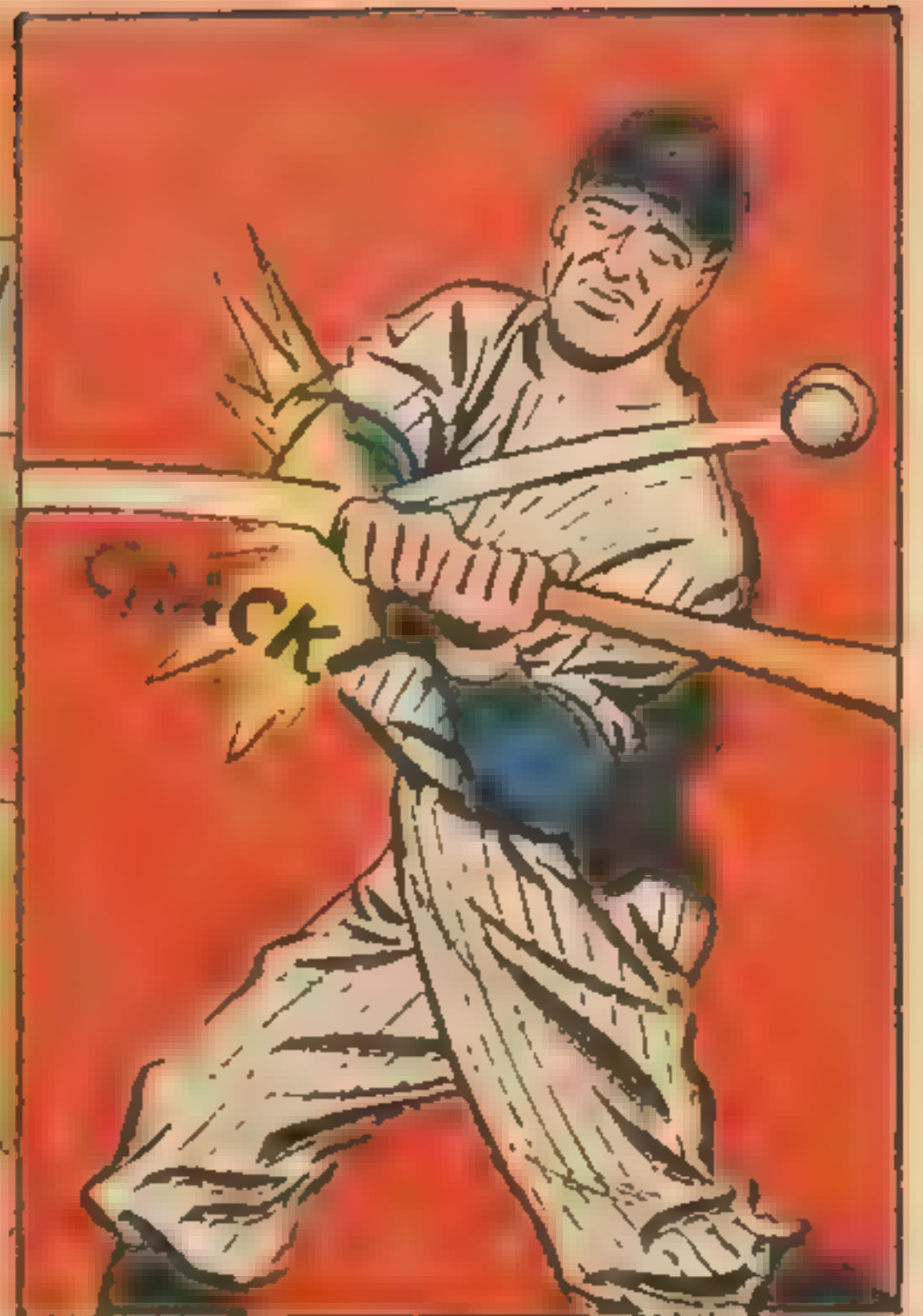
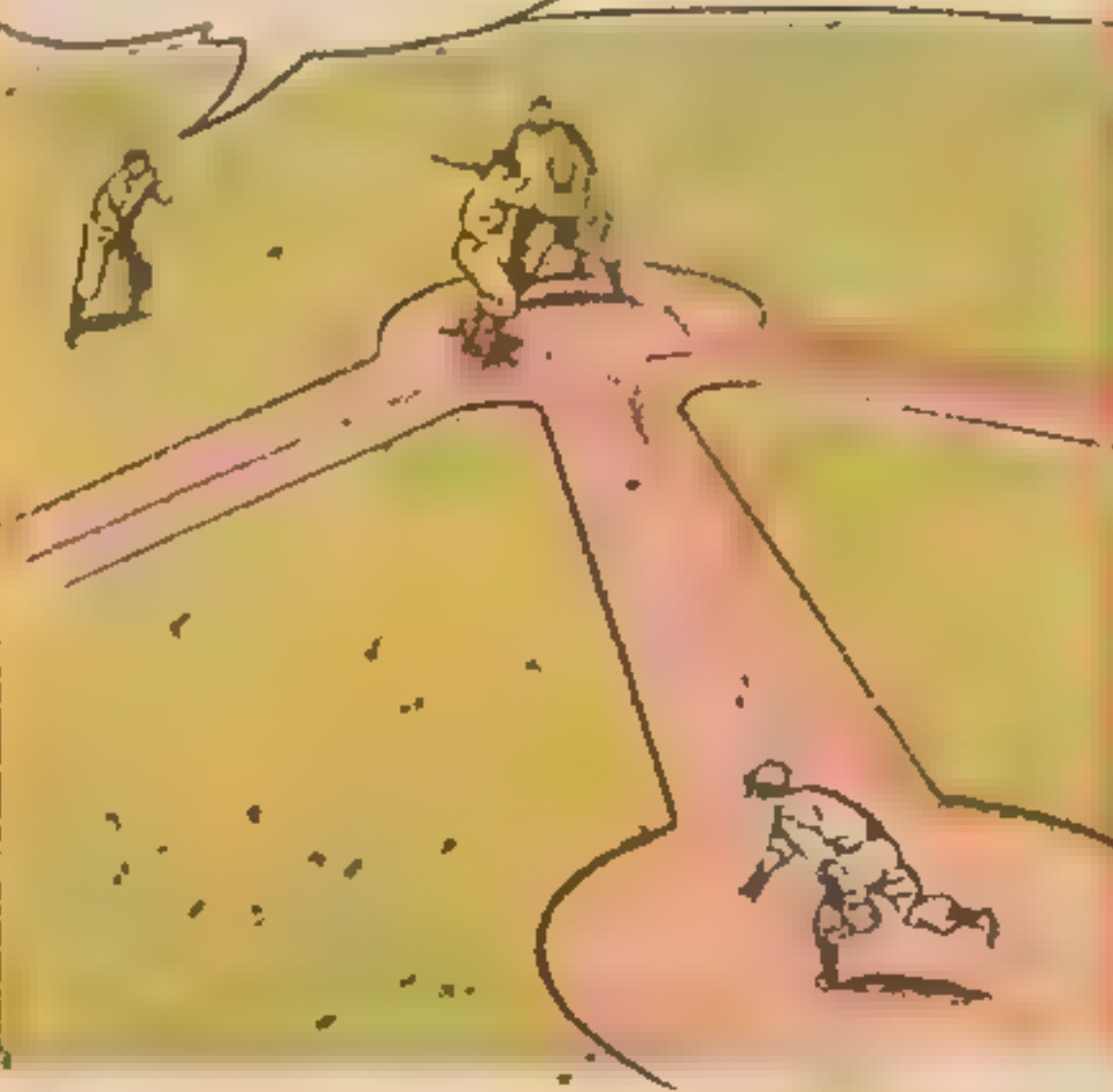


FOR SIX YEARS, LOU GEHRIG HAD BEEN A DOMINATING FIGURE IN BASEBALL. SELECTED AS MOST VALUABLE PLAYER, NAMED TO ALL STAR TEAMS, AT THE TOP OR NEAR THE TOP IN MOST DEPARTMENTS OF PLAY, HE HAD ALWAYS BEEN IN THE SHADOW OF BABE RUTH. BUT LOU, STEADFASTLY CLAIMING THAT HE WAS "LUCKY," NEVER BEGRUDGED THE BABE HIS FAME. LOU'S SOUL WAS AS BIG AS HIS HUGE, MUSCULAR BODY!

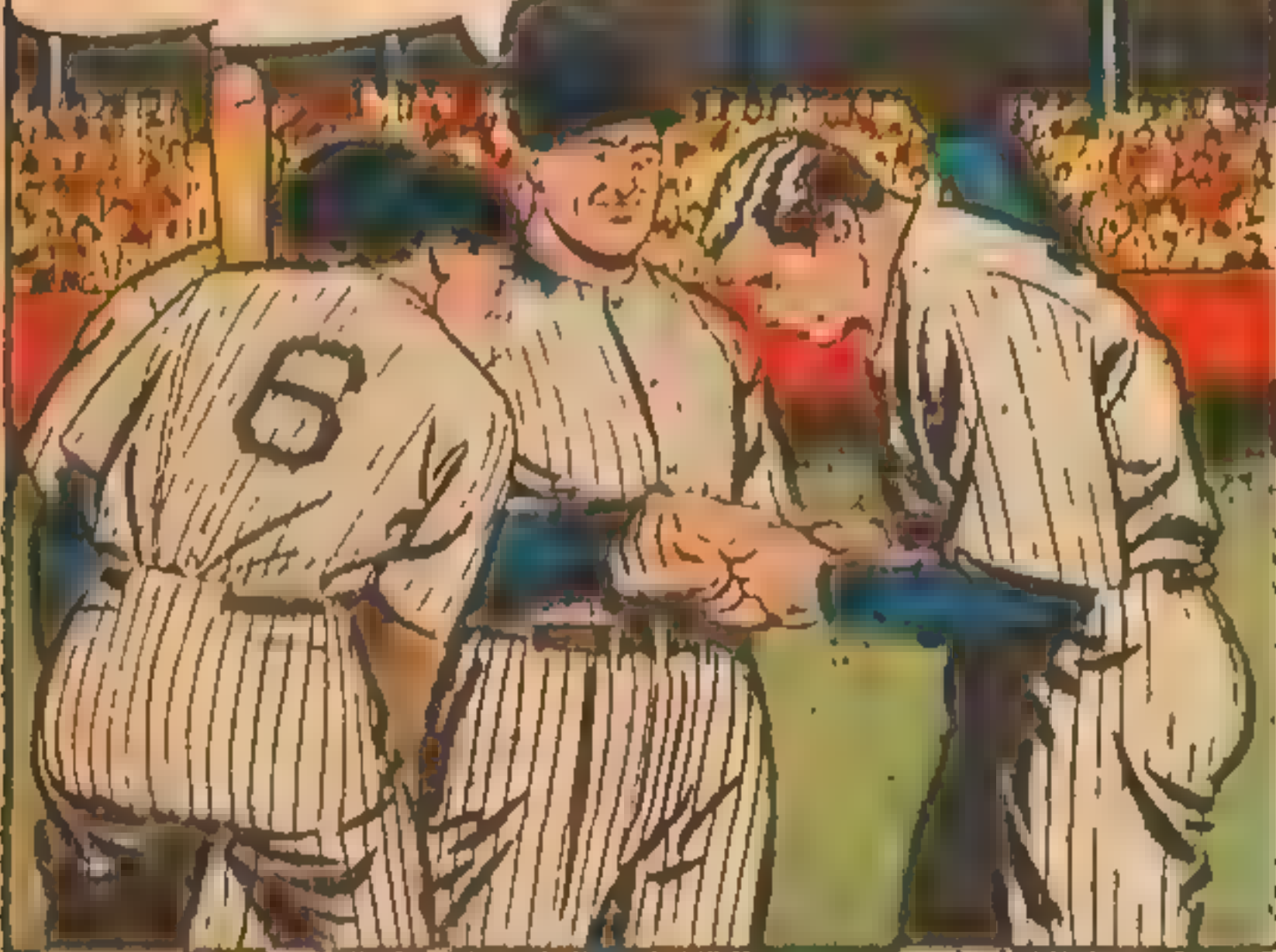


ON A BARNSTORMING TRIP IN TOKYO, JAPAN, DURING THE OFF SEASON...

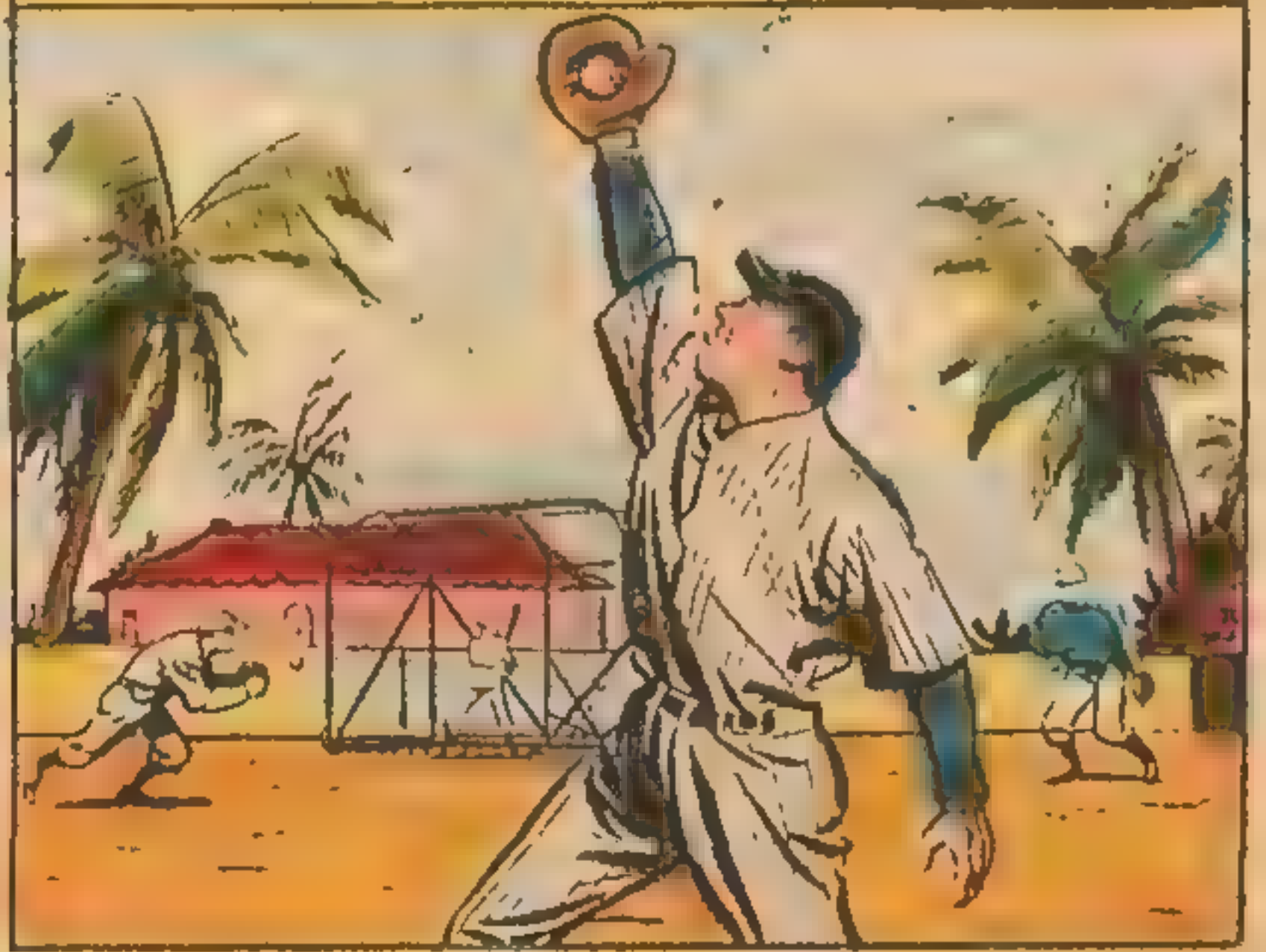
LOOK OUT, LOU! THAT PITCH IS SAILING — —



I PLAY SEVEN YEARS OF MAJOR LEAGUE BALL — AND GET HURT PLAYING IN JAPAN! WHAT A JOKE!



BUT BY THE TIME THE 1932 SPRING TRAINING CAMP OPENED, LOU'S HAND WAS HEALED, AND AS STRONG AS EVER...



JOE, I THINK THIS IS GOING TO BE OUR YEAR: THE BABE IS RIGHT, BILL IS THE BEST CATCHER WE EVER HAD, AND THIS LEFTY, GOMEZ, OUGHT TO HELP HERB AND CHARLEY.

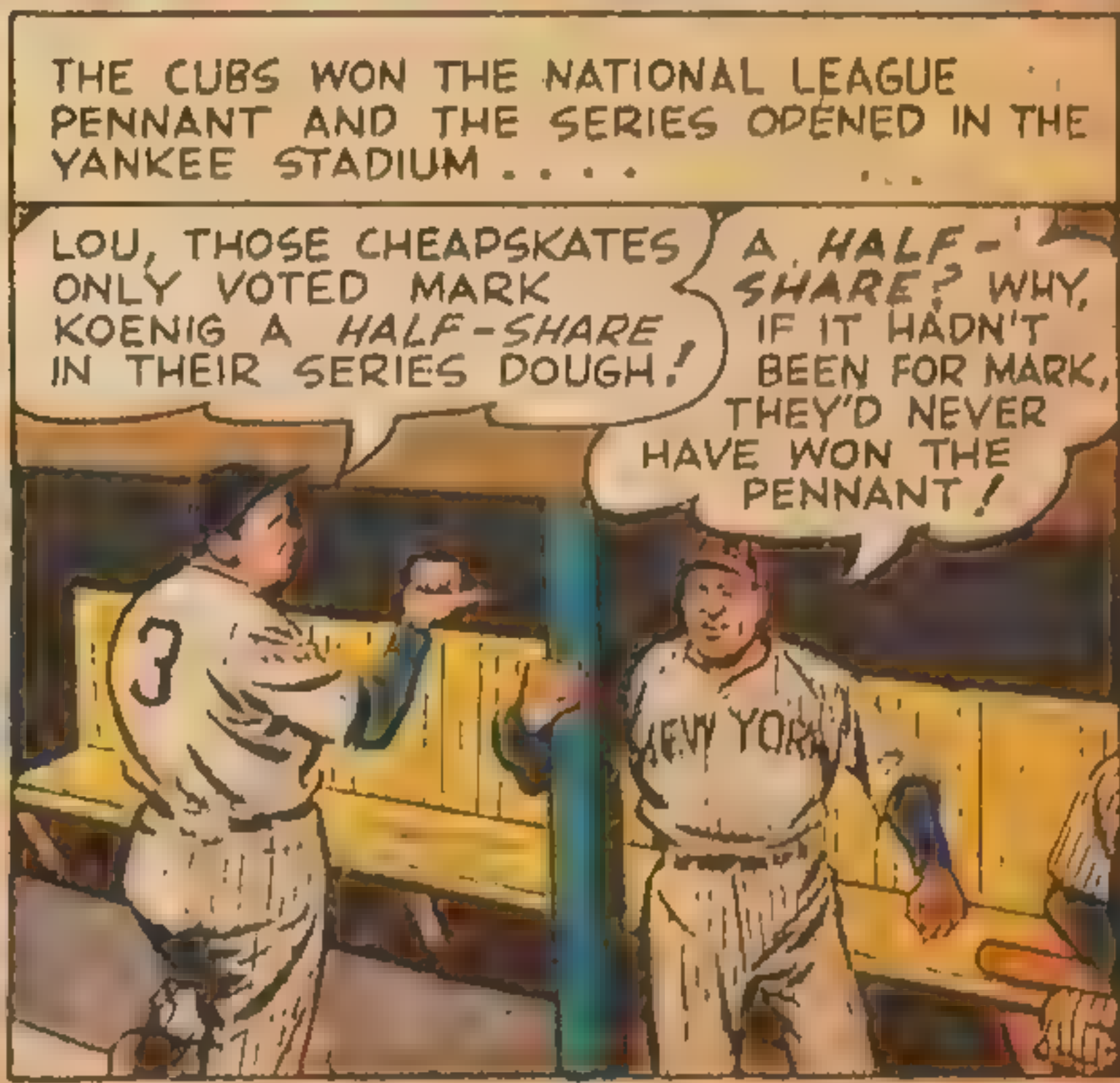
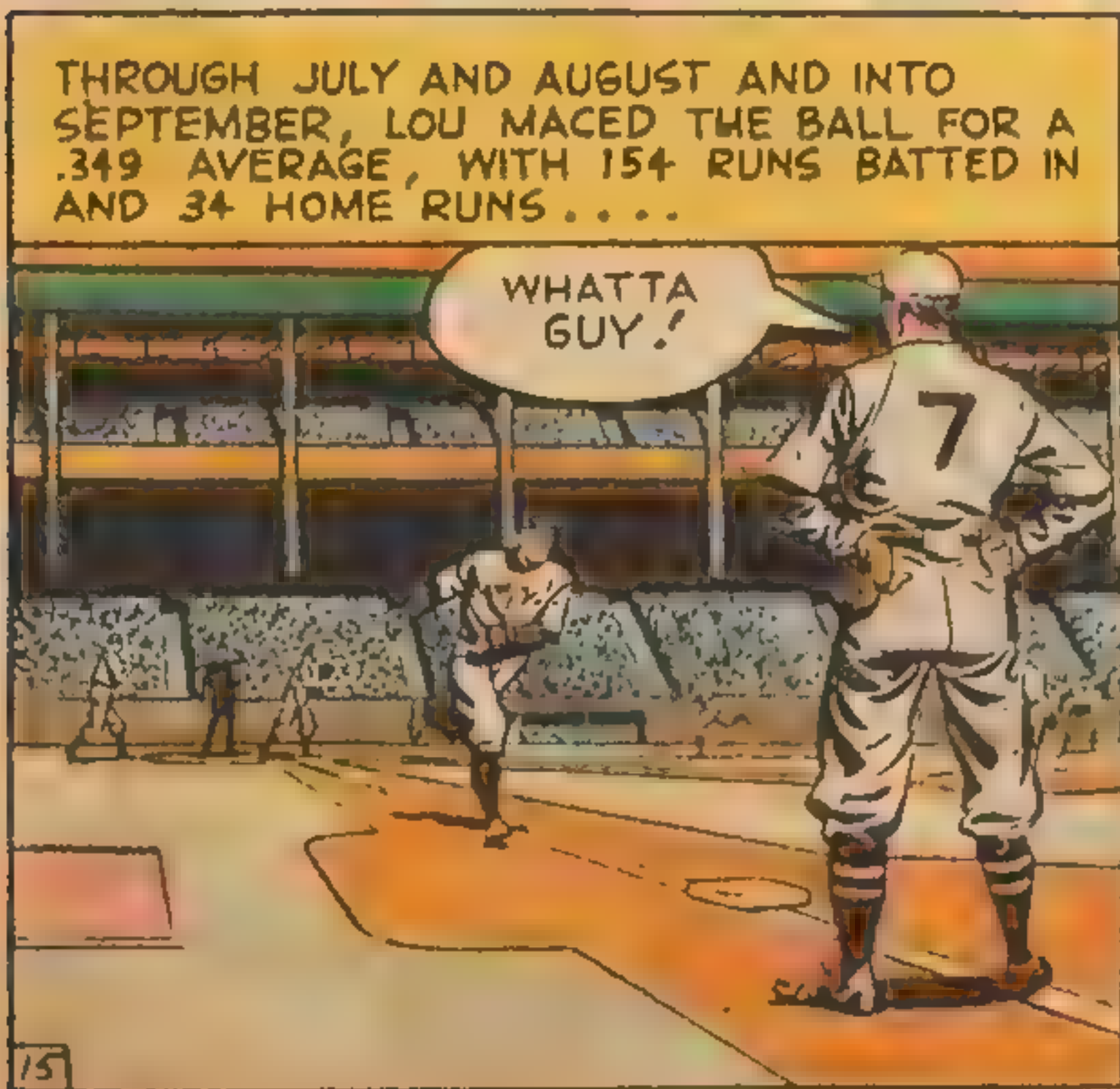
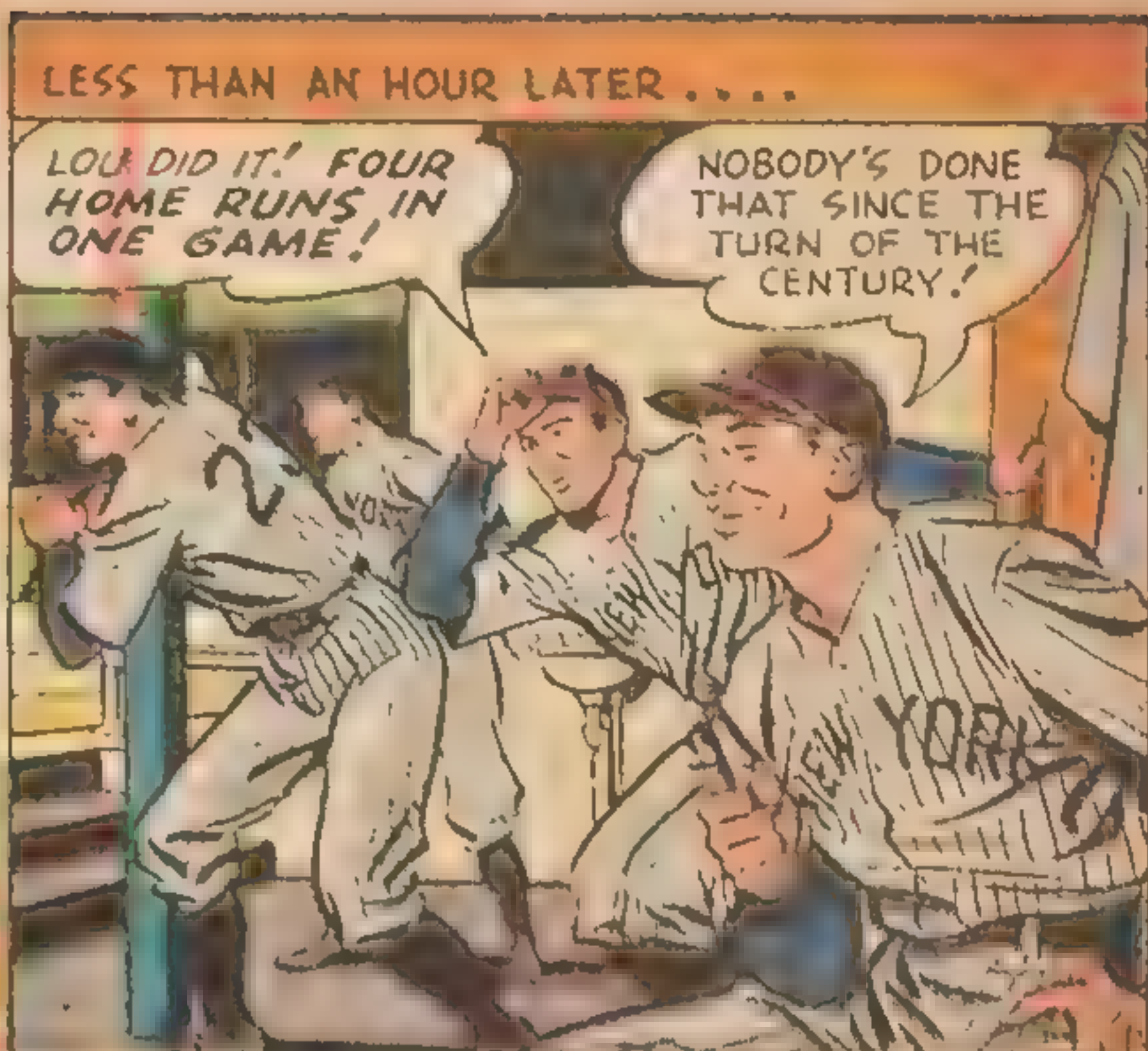
I AGREE WITH YOU, LOU. I THINK WE'LL DO IT!



ON JUNE 3RD, 1932, IN SHIBE PARK, PHILADELPHIA.

THERE IT GOES! THAT'S LOU'S SECOND HOME RUN IN TWO TIMES AT BAT! SAY — I WONDER IF HE CAN HIT ANOTHER ONE?





A CHORUS OF BOOS AND JEERS ROSE FROM THE YANKEE DUGOUT AND FROM THE SIDELINES. CATCALLS, CRIES OF "CHEAPSKATES!" "NICKEL-NURSERS!" "INGRATES!" WERE AMONG THE LEAST SCORNFUL...



A FEUD WAS RAPIDLY BUILDING UP AS THE YANKEES WON THE FIRST TWO GAMES, THEN WENT WEST TO WRIGLEY FIELD...

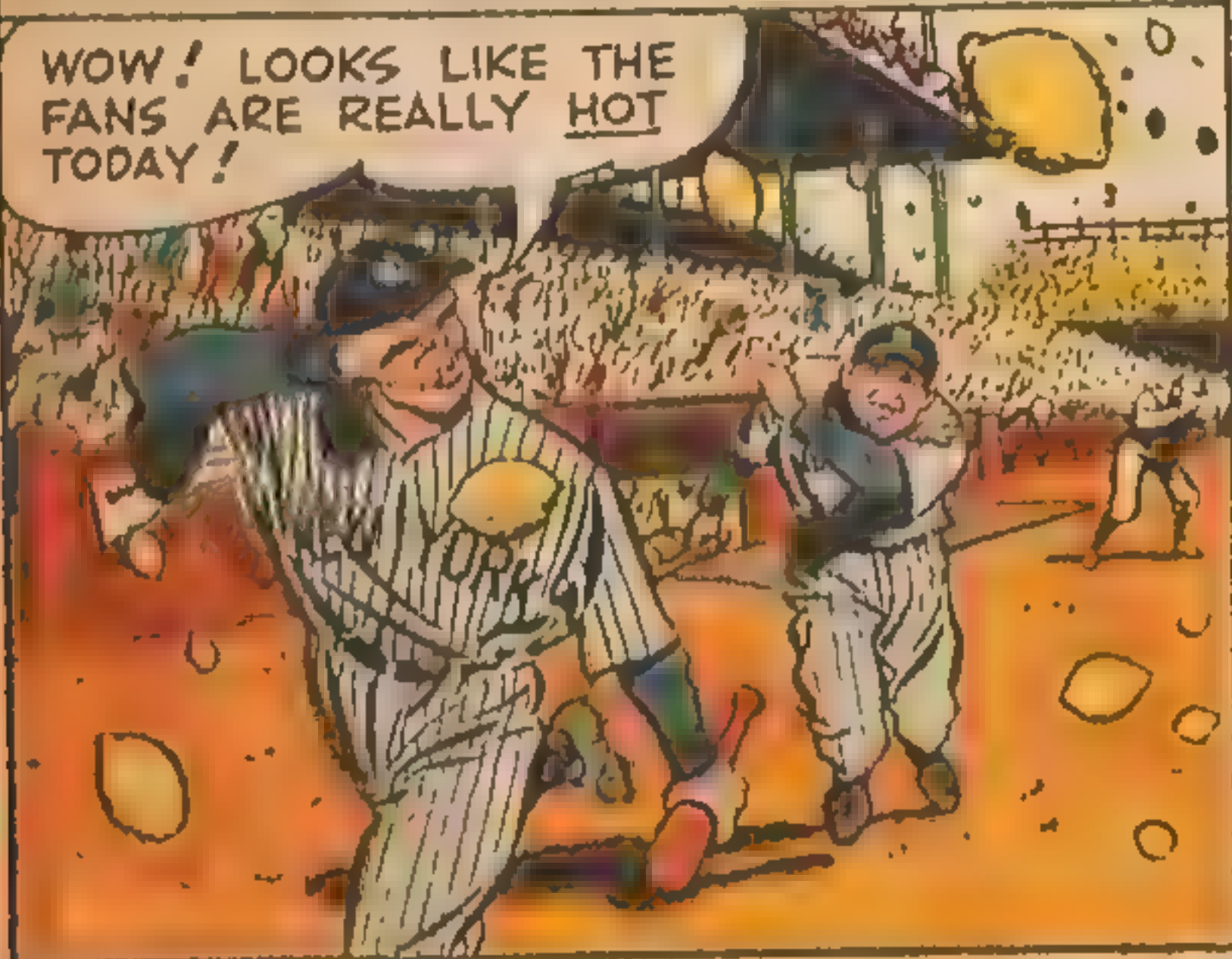
I HOPE WE TAKE THIS SERIES FOUR STRAIGHT! IT BURNS ME UP TO THINK OF THE DEAL THEY HANDED MARK!

WE'LL GET 'EM, KID!



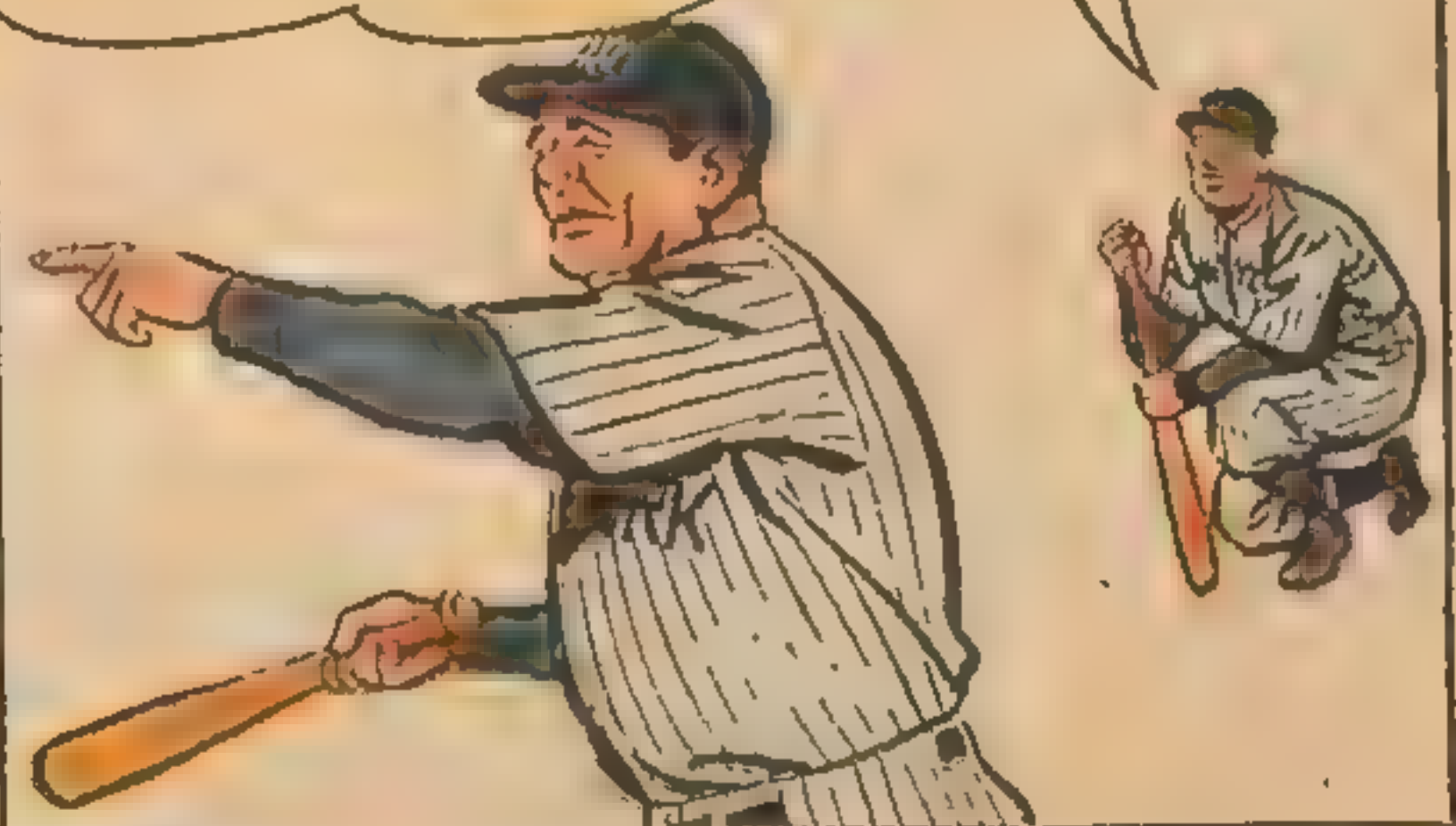
IN A SEEMINGLY YELLOW SKY, LEMONS HURTTLED DOWNWARD FROM THE HANDS OF THE CHICAGO ROOTERS...

WOW! LOOKS LIKE THE FANS ARE REALLY HOT TODAY!

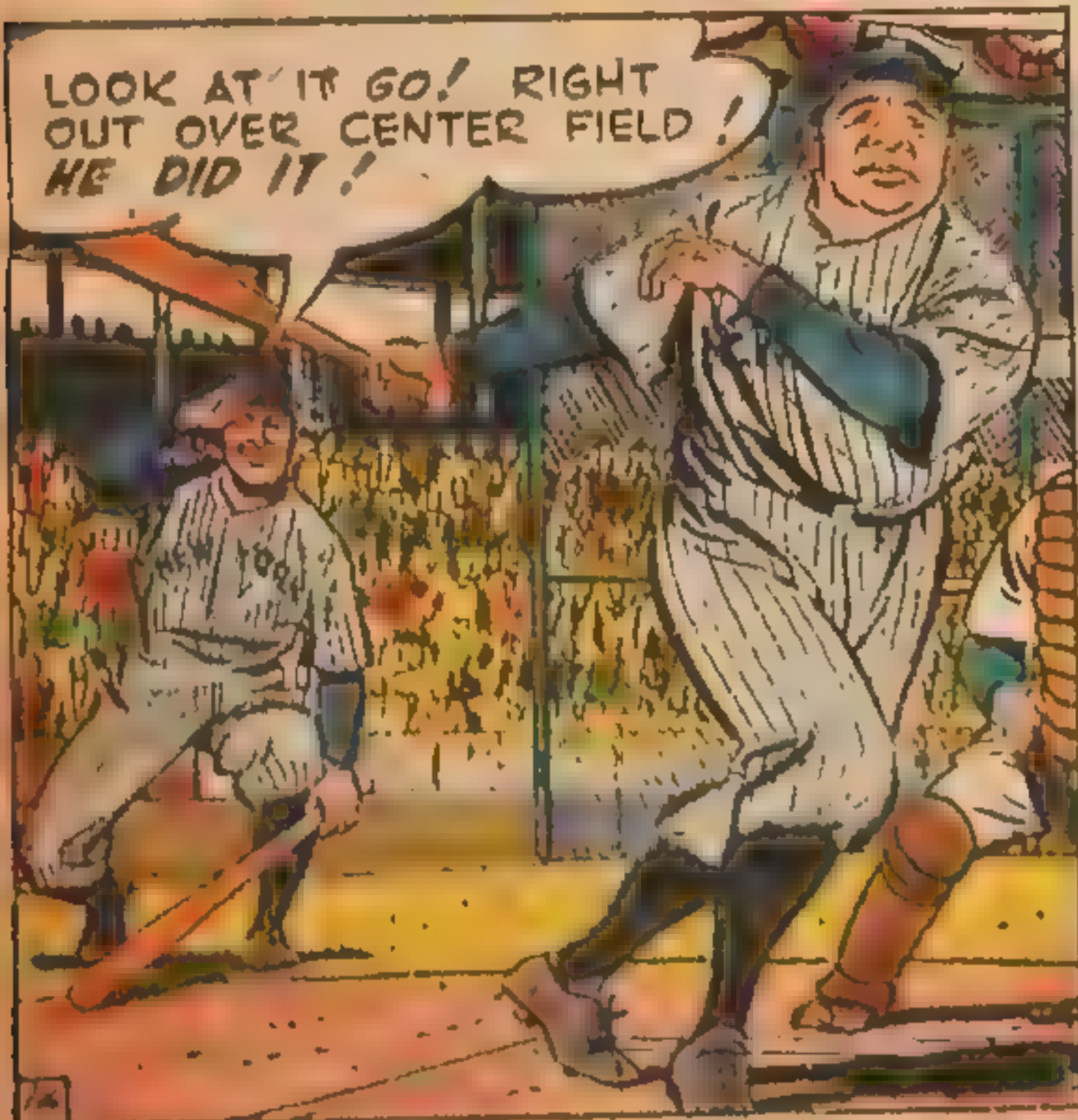


WITH THE SCORE TIED-4-4-BABE RUTH CAME TO THE PLATE IN THE FIFTH INNING, LET TWO STRIKES GO BY, AND THEN...

WHY OLD JUDGE IS POINTING TO THE CENTER FIELD STANDS - CALLING HIS SHOT! HE'S GOING TO HIT A HOME RUN THERE!



LOOK AT IT GO! RIGHT OUT OVER CENTER FIELD! HE DID IT!



LOU, THE NEXT BATTER UP, ALSO CONNECTED FOR THE ROUND-TRIPPER, BUT THE BABE'S FAMOUS GESTURE HAD COMPLETELY STOLEN THE PLAY...

LOU IS HITTING OVER 500 IN THIS SERIES. HE'S HITTING JUST AS MANY HOMERS AS THE BAM-BUT WHO THINKS ABOUT GEHRIG?

YOU KNOW WHAT THE TROUBLE IS? GEHRIG IS TOO GOOD! HE ALWAYS DOES SUCH A HONEY OF A JOB THAT FOLKS EXPECT IT FROM HIM!



WHO WAS KNOWN AS (a) THE GEORGIA PEACH? (b) THE GRAY EAGLE? (c) THE IRON HORSE?

ANOTHER SWEEP OF FOUR STRAIGHT SERIES GAMES, AND THE TEAM DISBANDED FOR THE YEAR. BUT IN THE FRONT OFFICE . . .

THE BABE IS ALMOST WASHED UP. TONY LAZZERI IS GETTING OLD, AS BALLPLAYERS GO. JOEY SEWELL AT THIRD IS WELL ALONG. YOU WATCH. YOU'LL SEE. JUST KEEP IN SHAPE THIS WINTER — WE'LL COUNT ON YOU MORE THAN EVER!

REPORTS FROM THE 1933 SPRING TRAINING CAMP WERE GLOWING . . .

LOU, WE WON'T WIN THE PENNANT NEXT YEAR—OR THE YEAR AFTER.

JOE—YOU'RE ALL WRONG! LOOK WHAT WE DID TO THE CUBS!



LOU HIT ONE TODAY!

I BETCHA THE YANKS WIN BY TWENTY GAMES THIS YEAR!



ON A HOT AUGUST AFTERNOON THAT YEAR, THE YANKEES SUFFERED THEIR FIRST SHUTOUT IN 309 GAMES!

I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND. NOT ONE RUN..

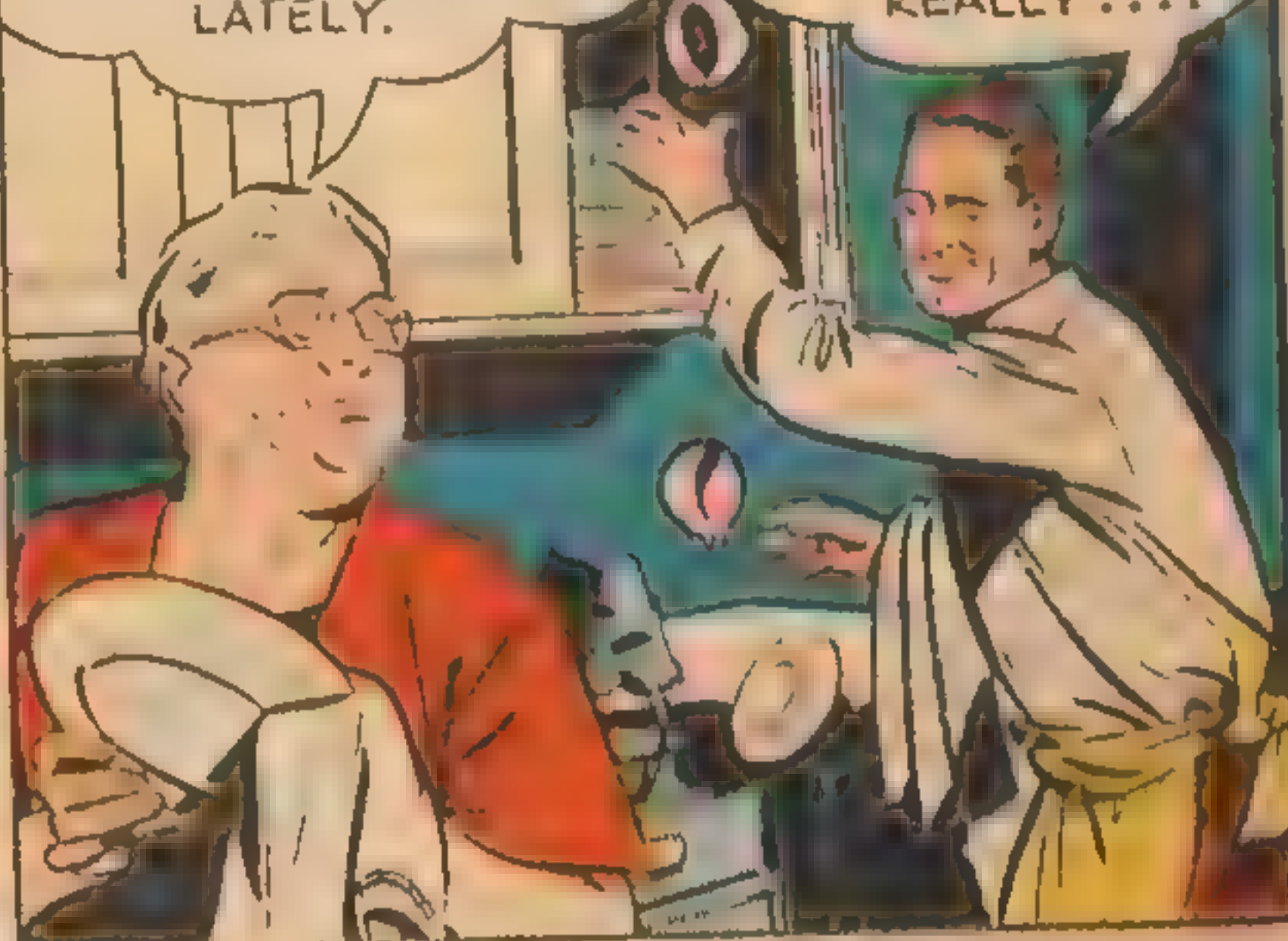
FORGET IT, KID. WE'LL MAKE A HUNDRED TOMORROW! OLD MOSE GROVE SURE HAD HIS FIREBALL TODAY!



LESS THAN A WEEK LATER

LOU, WHAT IS IT? YOU'RE SO NERVOUS LATELY.

I-I DON'T KNOW. IT'S NOTHING, REALLY....



LOU SURE IS ON-EDGE!

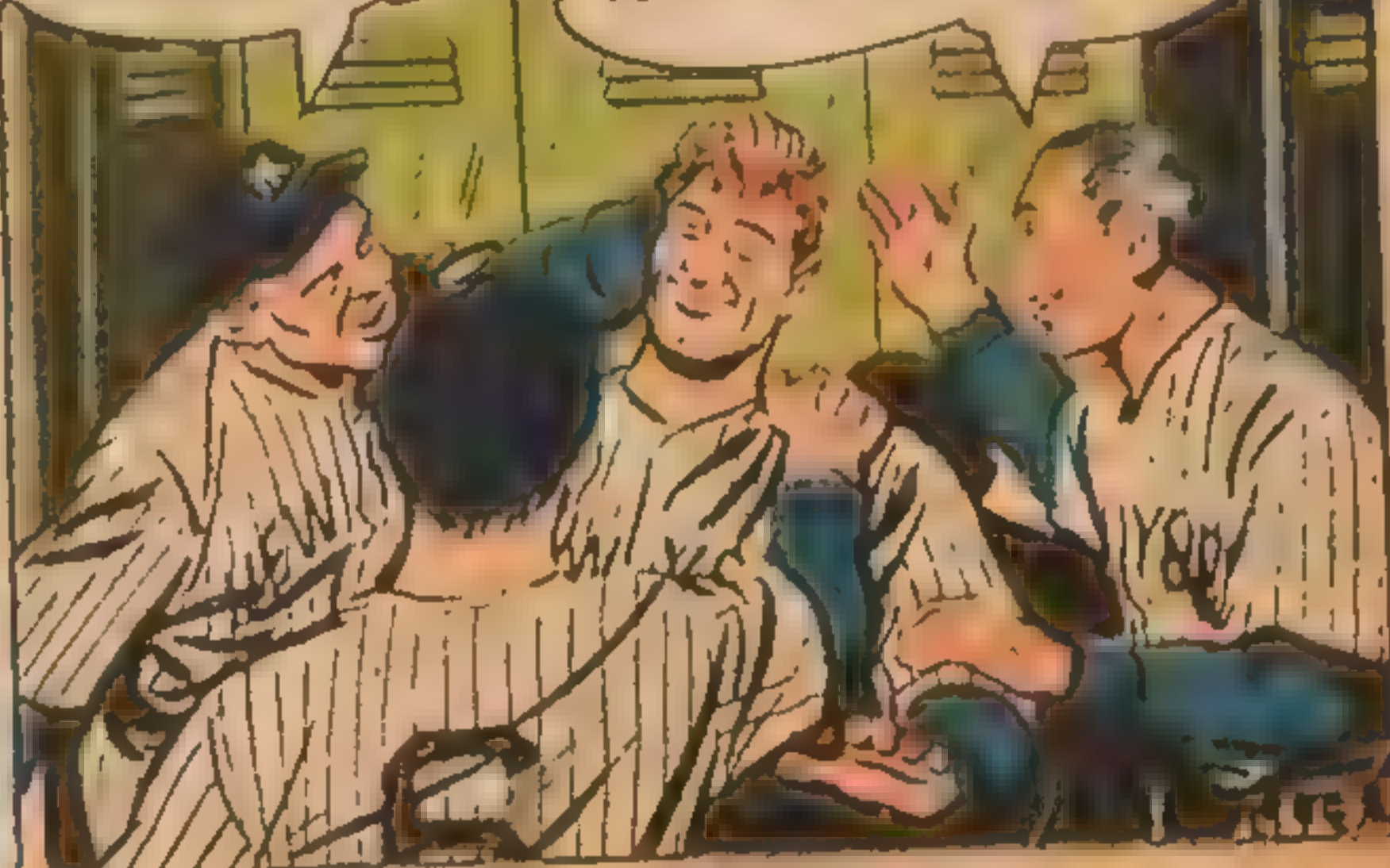
YEAH. WELL, ONLY THREE MORE GAMES TO GO FOR HIM. NO WONDER HE'S JITTERY!.



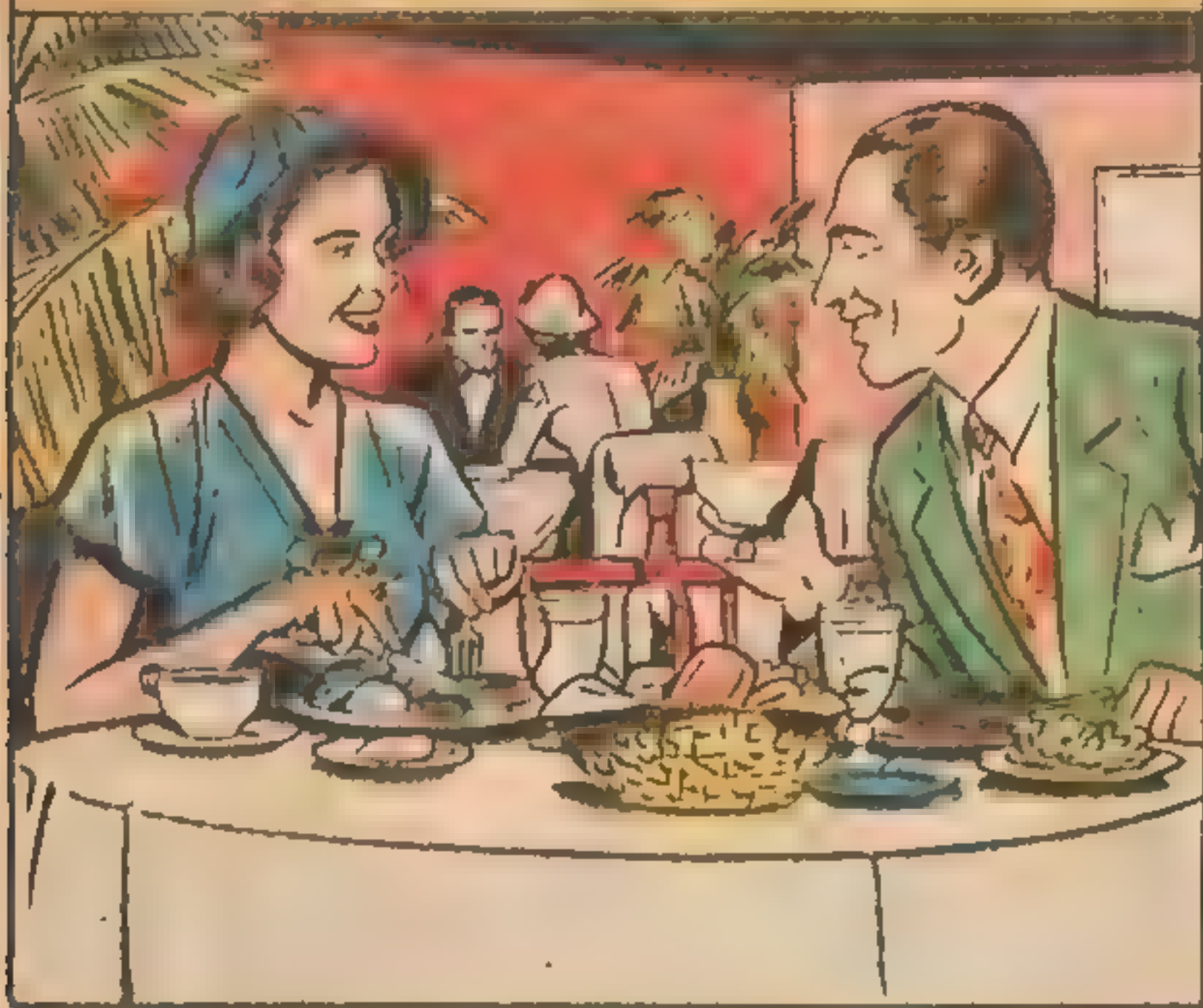
AND THEN, ON AUGUST 17TH, 1933, LOU GEHRIG BROKE THE RECORD FOR CONSECUTIVE GAMES PLAYED. THE OLD RECORD WAS 1,307...

THE IRON MAN HIMSELF!

GOOD OLD BISCUIT-PANTS! NICE GOIN', BOY! HOPE YOU HIT A MILLION!



IT WAS IN 1930 THAT LOU HAD MET MISS ELEANOR TWITCHELL OF CHICAGO . . .



NOW, AFTER A SERIOUS COURTSHIP IN 1933, LOU AND MISS TWITCHELL WERE MARRIED IN THEIR PARTIALLY COMPLETED NEW ROCHELLE HOME..



THERE WAS NO HONEYMOON—

GOT TO RUN, HONEY. CAN'T BE LATE FOR THE BALL GAME!

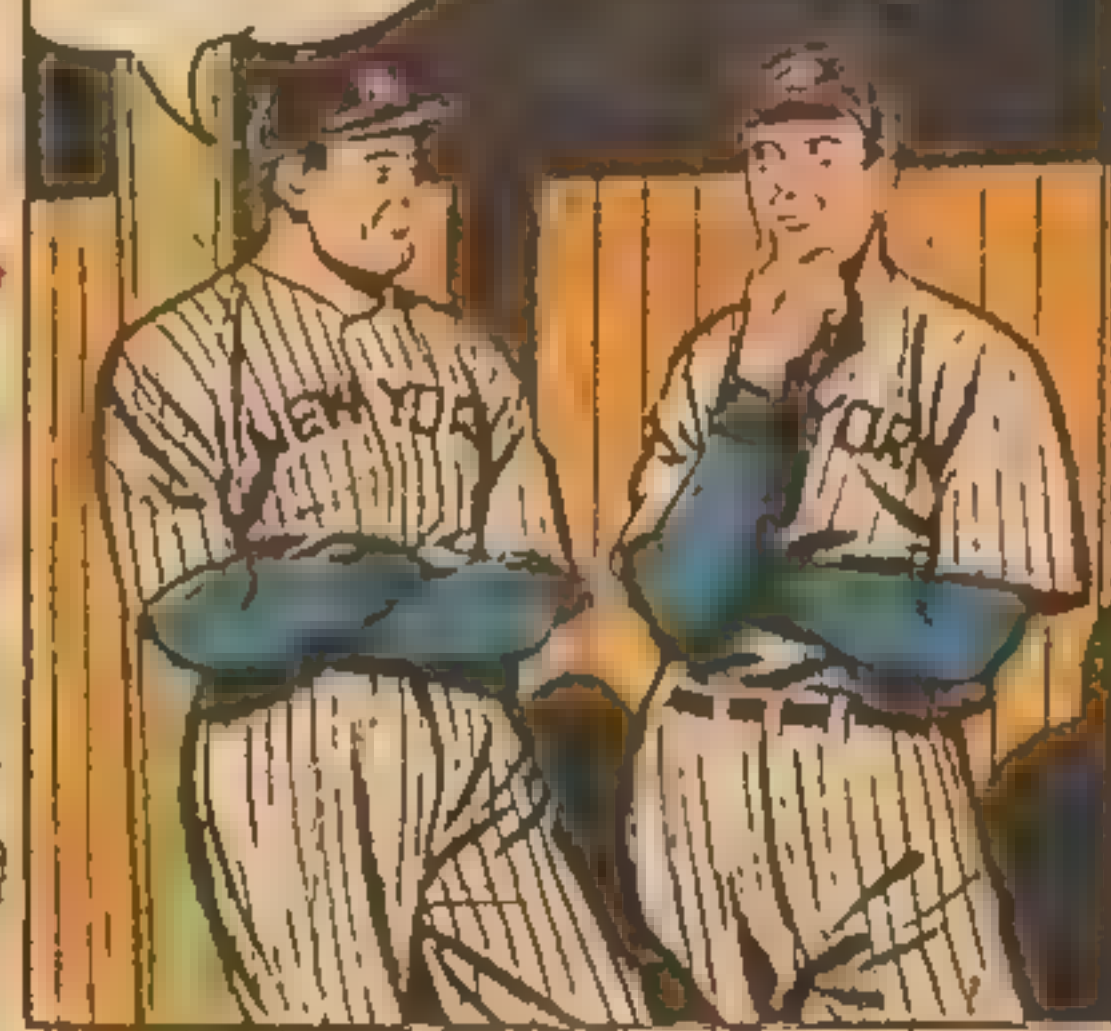


IN MORE WAYS THAN THIS, 1933 WAS A FINE YEAR FOR LOU. HE HIT .334, AND BANGED IN 139 RUNS . . .

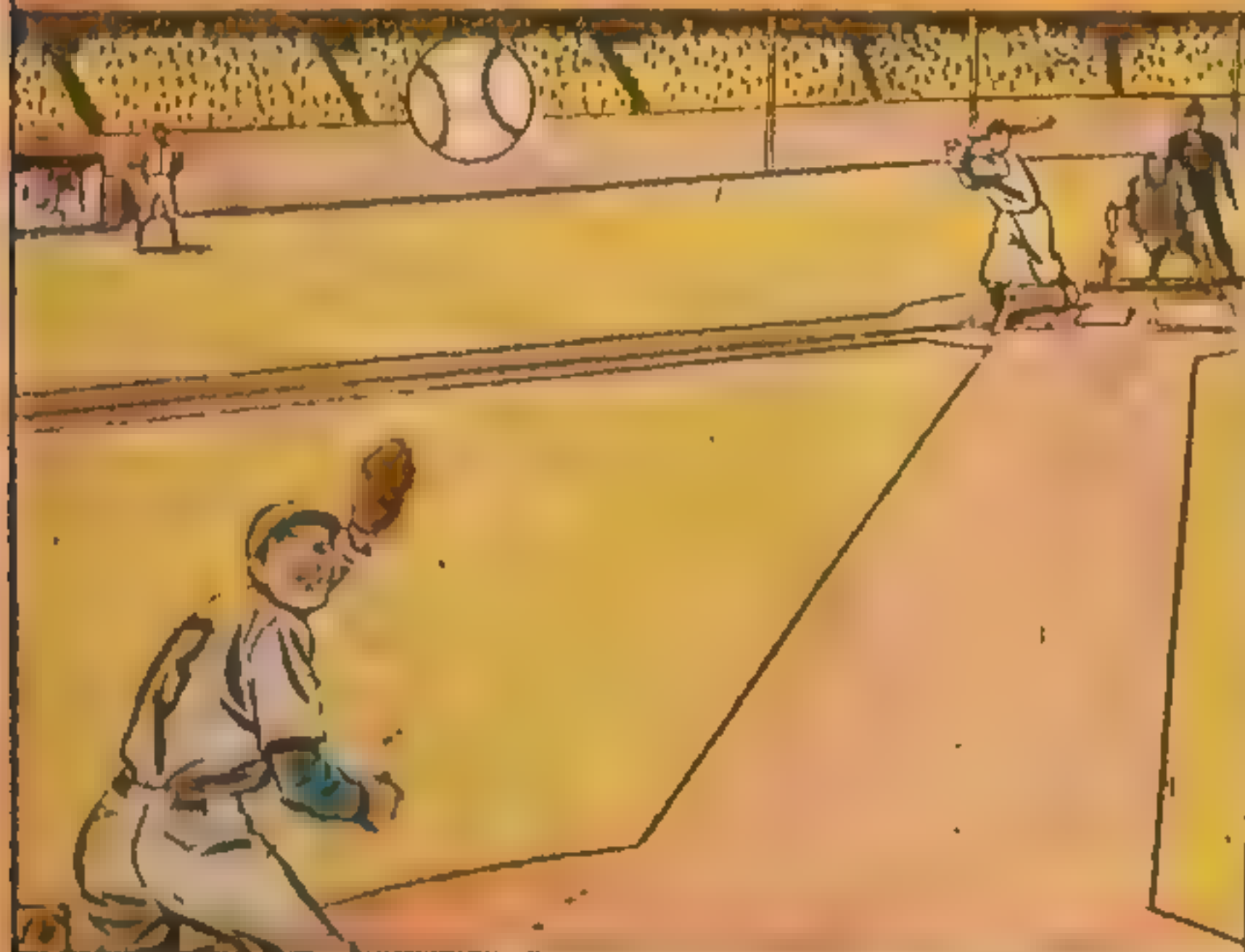


ANOTHER SEASON GONE BY, JOE, AND YOU WERE RIGHT. WE'RE IN SECOND PLACE.

ALMOST GOOD ENOUGH, LOU— BUT NOT QUITE!



IT WAS IN 1934, HOWEVER, THAT LOU REALLY LASHED OUT WITH HIS BAT TO CORRAL THE BATTING CHAMPIONSHIP WITH .363



HE WALLOPED 49 HOME RUNS! DROVE IN 165 RUNS!

THEY OUGHTTA GIVE US BICYCLES WHEN THAT GEHRIG HITS!



WHO HOLDS THE RECORD FOR HITTING HOME RUNS WITH THE BASES LOADED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES?

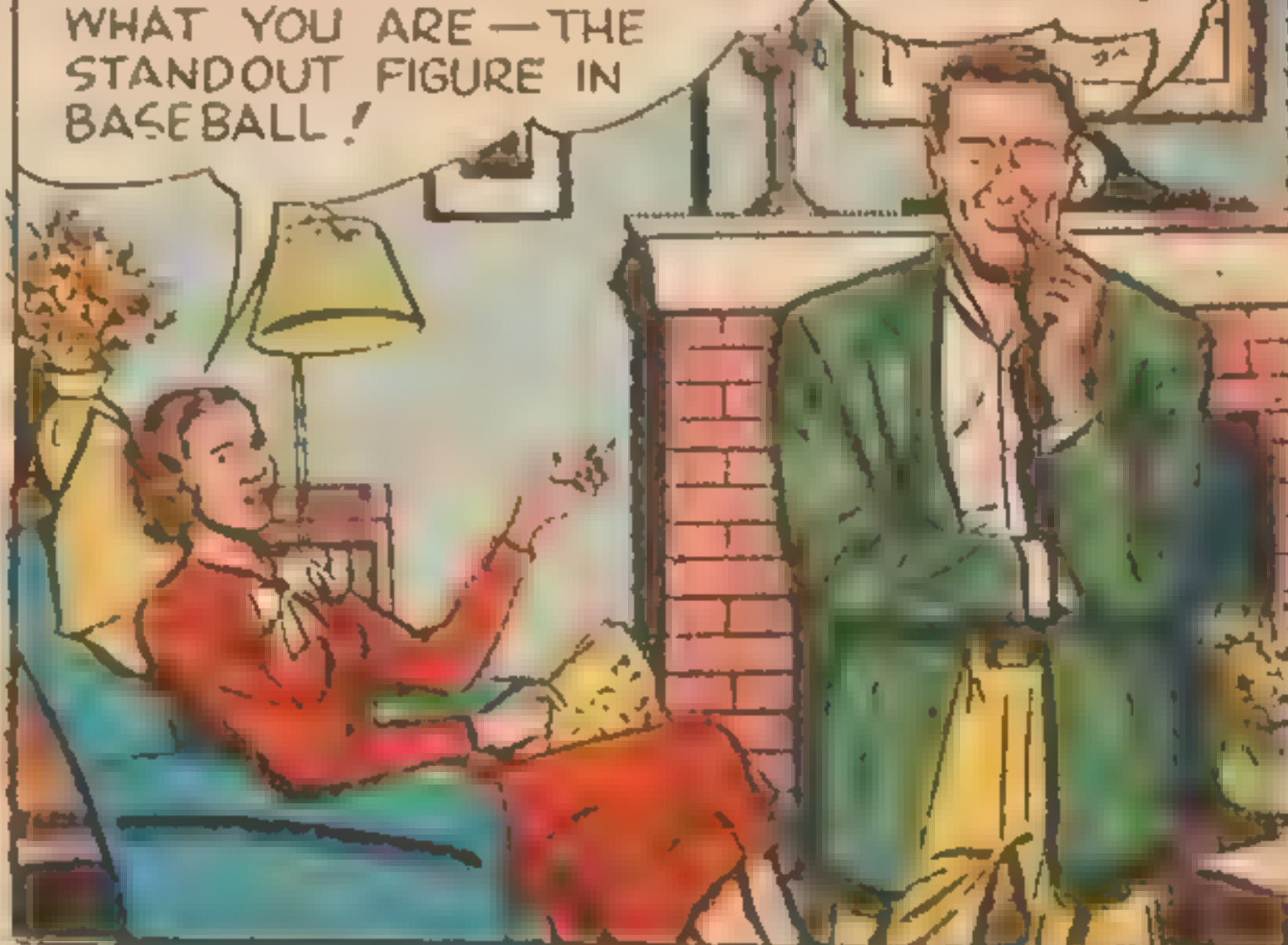
IN 1935, LOU SLUMPED OFF TO .329 FROM HIS TORRID PACE OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR, AND THE YANKEES AGAIN TRAILED THE TIGERS...



THAT WINTER—

LOU, YOU'RE TEAM CAPTAIN NOW. IT'S TIME YOU ASSERTED YOURSELF FOR WHAT YOU ARE—THE STANDOUT FIGURE IN BASEBALL!

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT, HONEY.



ED BARROW ADDED HIS ENCOURAGEMENT---

LOU, YOU'RE TOO MODEST! YOU WERE PERFECTLY HAPPY PLAYING SECOND FIDDLE TO RUTH. NOW BABE'S GONE, YOU SHOULD TAKE OVER!

I WILL, ED. I PROMISE YOU BOTH THAT I WILL!



BUT AT THE 1936 SPRING TRAINING CAMP, AS LOU WENT AROUND TO GREET THE PLAYERS—HE LEARNED THAT A NEW IDOL WAS RISING—

WELCOME TO CAMP, BOYS. MAYBE THIS WILL BE OUR YEAR!

HOW ABOUT THIS NEW OUTFIELDER, LOU-DIMAGGIO?

IS HE AS GOOD AS THEY SAY?



HE CERTAINLY LOOKS GOOD HE'LL BE THE EXTRA POWER WE NEED THIS YEAR!



A NEW ERA WAS DAWNING FOR THE YANKEES. LOU, WHO WAS PART OF THE OLD BABE RUTH AND MURDERER'S ROW DAYS, WAS NOW TO BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS NEW, EQUALLY DEVASTATING BASEBALL MACHINE. AND, JUST AS HE HAD BEEN CONTENT TO WORK HIS BEST IN THE COLORFUL SHADOW OF THE BABE, SO HE WAS TO FIND HIMSELF AGAIN OUTSHADOWED.... BUT NOT OUTSHONE..... BY THE BRILLIANT JOE DIMAGGIO!

HOW ABOUT IT, LOU? DIMAGGIO IS GETTING THE HEADLINES. WHAT—

IF YOU'RE ASKING ME AM I JEALOUS, FORGET IT. IF HE HELPS THE TEAM, I HOPE HE MAKES HEADLINES EVERY DAY. I STILL SAY—I CONSIDER MYSELF A LUCKY GUY!



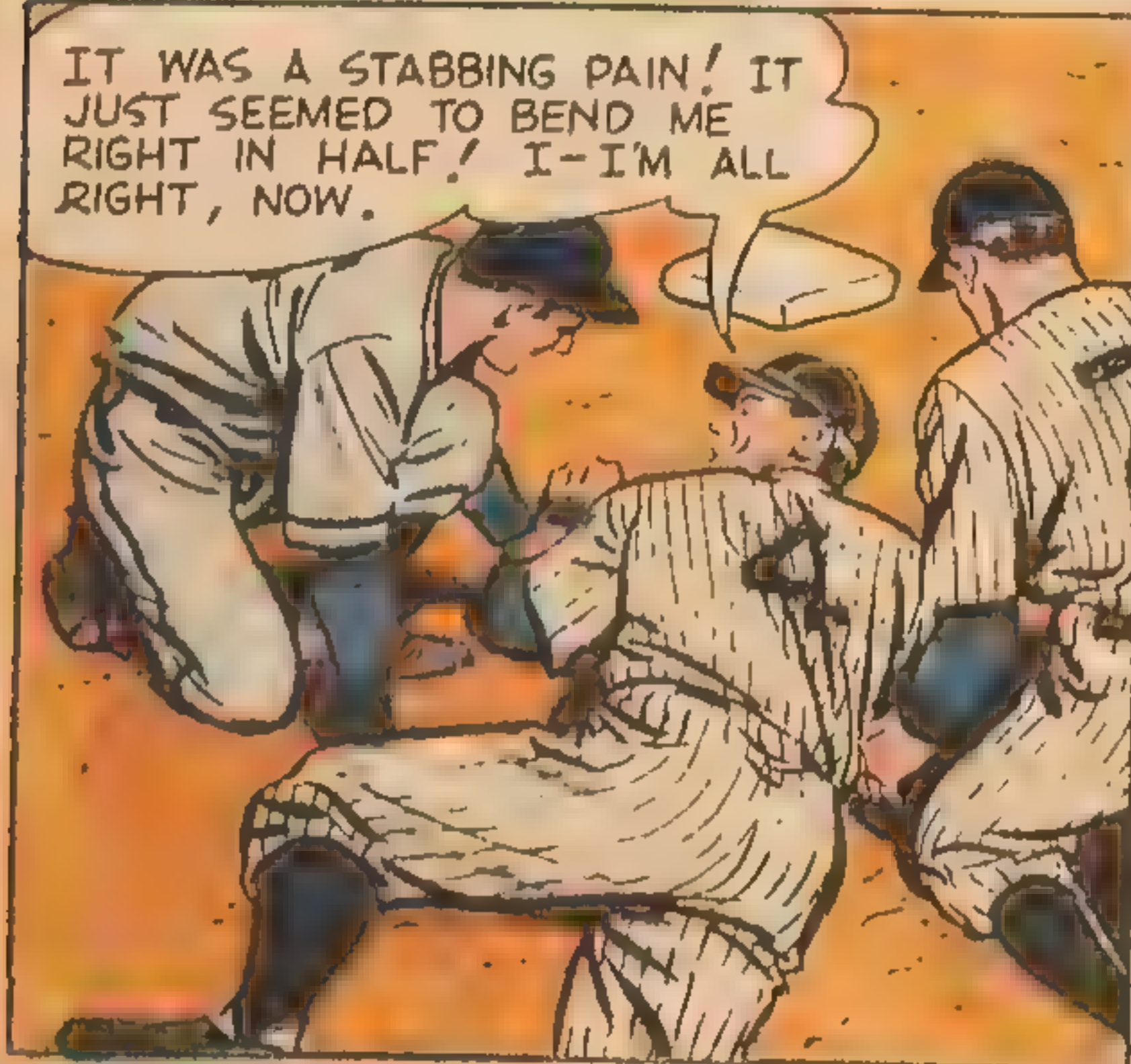
DIMAGGIO DID HELP THE TEAM, AND WITH LOU BASHING THE PELLET AT A 354-MARK, WITH 40 HOME RUNS, THE YANKS SWEEP ON TO THE 1936 PENNANT...

LOU WAS NO LONGER AN AWKWARD FIELDER. BY SWEAT AND GRIM DETERMINATION, HE HAD MADE HIMSELF A STANDOUT FIRST SACKER.....

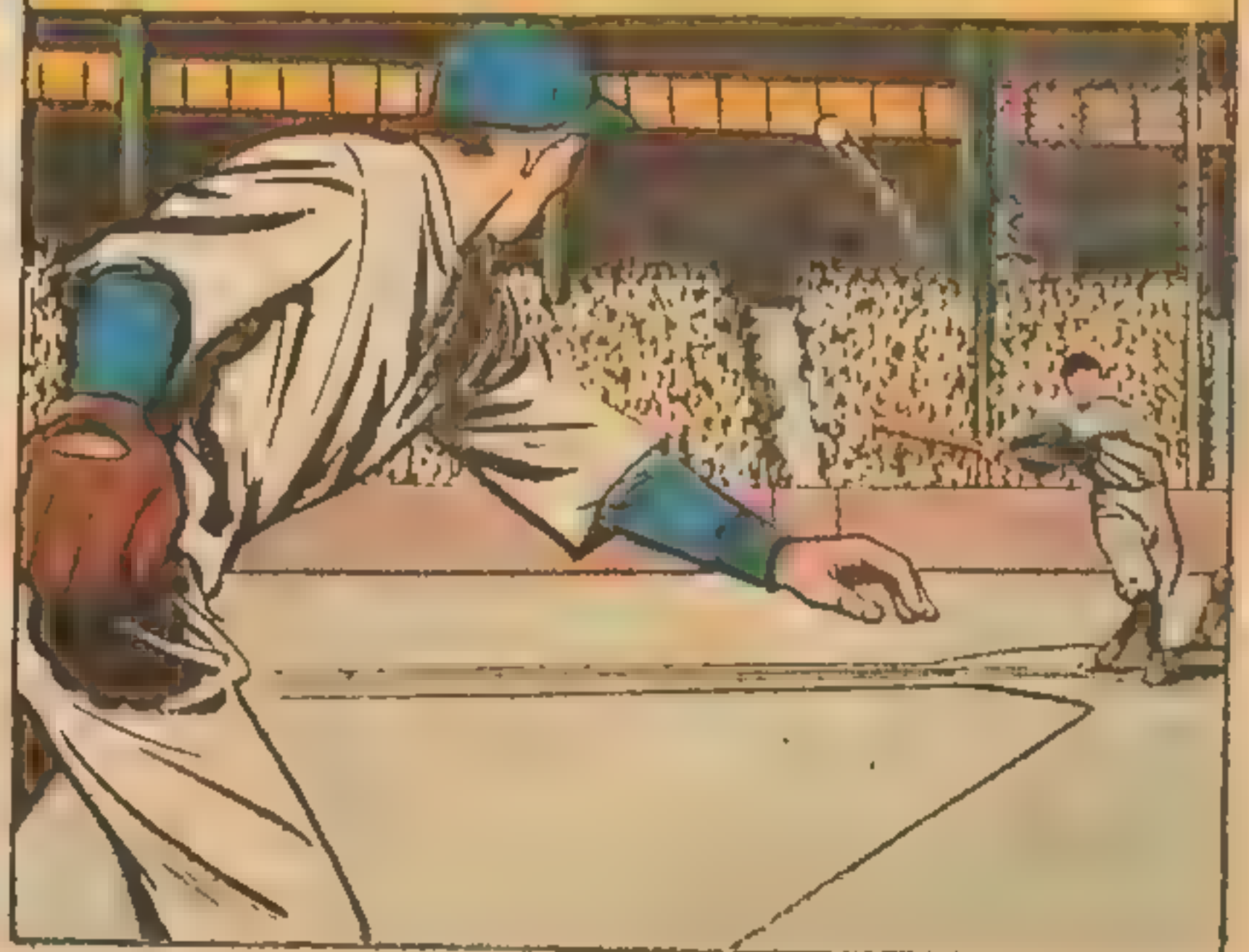
AND THEN ONE AFTERNOON, AS LOU WAS RUNNING OUT A HIT -



IT WAS A STABBING PAIN! IT JUST SEEMED TO BEND ME RIGHT IN HALF! I-I'M ALL RIGHT, NOW.

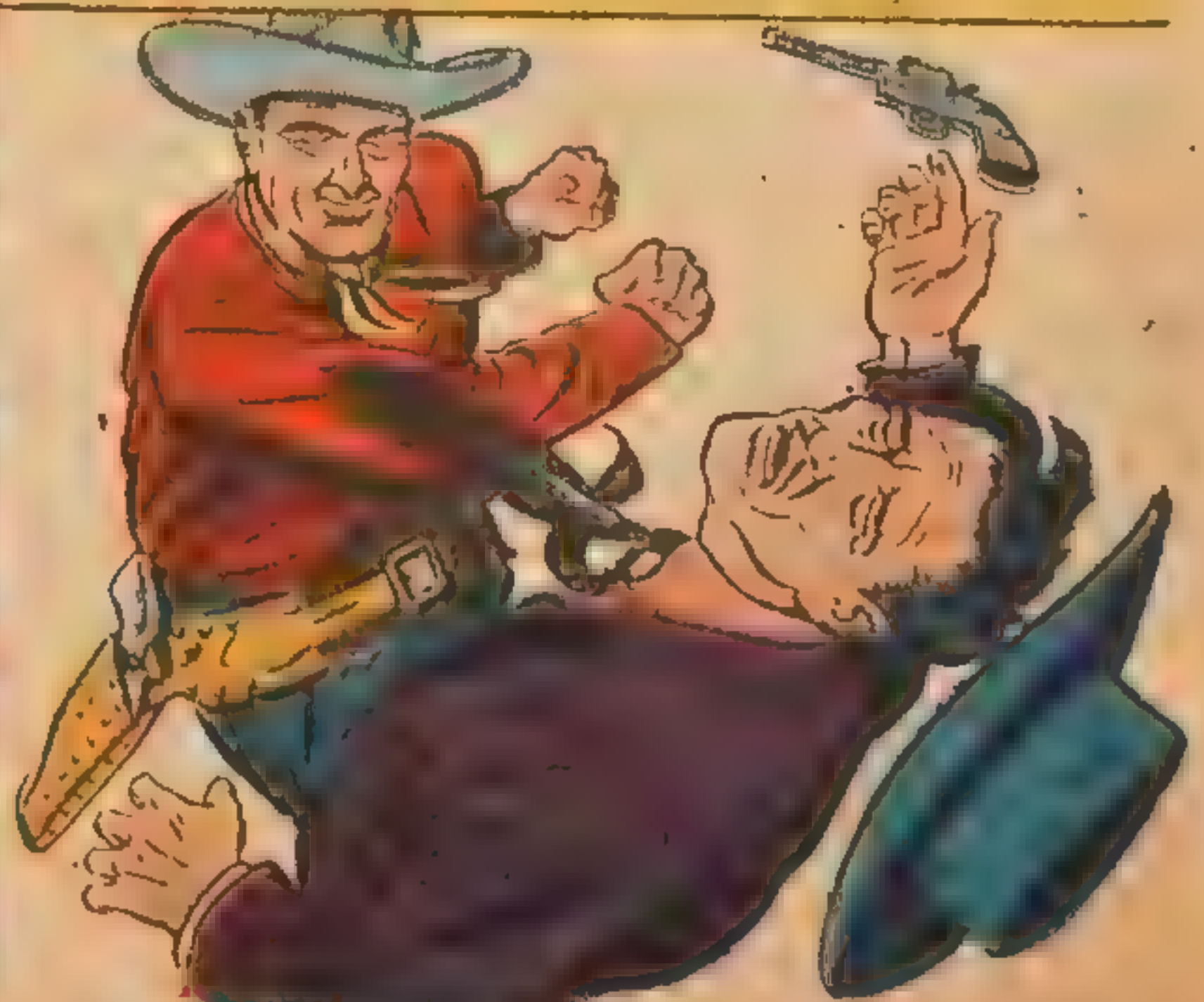


LOU SHOOK OFF THE FRIGHTENING EFFECTS OF THAT MOMENTARY PARALYSIS AND WENT ON TO HIS FIFTH WORLD SERIES THAT OCTOBER.



DURING THE OFF-SEASON, LOU WENT TO HOLLYWOOD, WHERE HE CO-STARRED IN A WESTERN CALLED "RAWHIDE". LOU PLAYED HIMSELF AS THE OWNER OF A RANCH...

HE SMASHED THE BACK OF A CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD HIS FELLOW RANCHERS.....

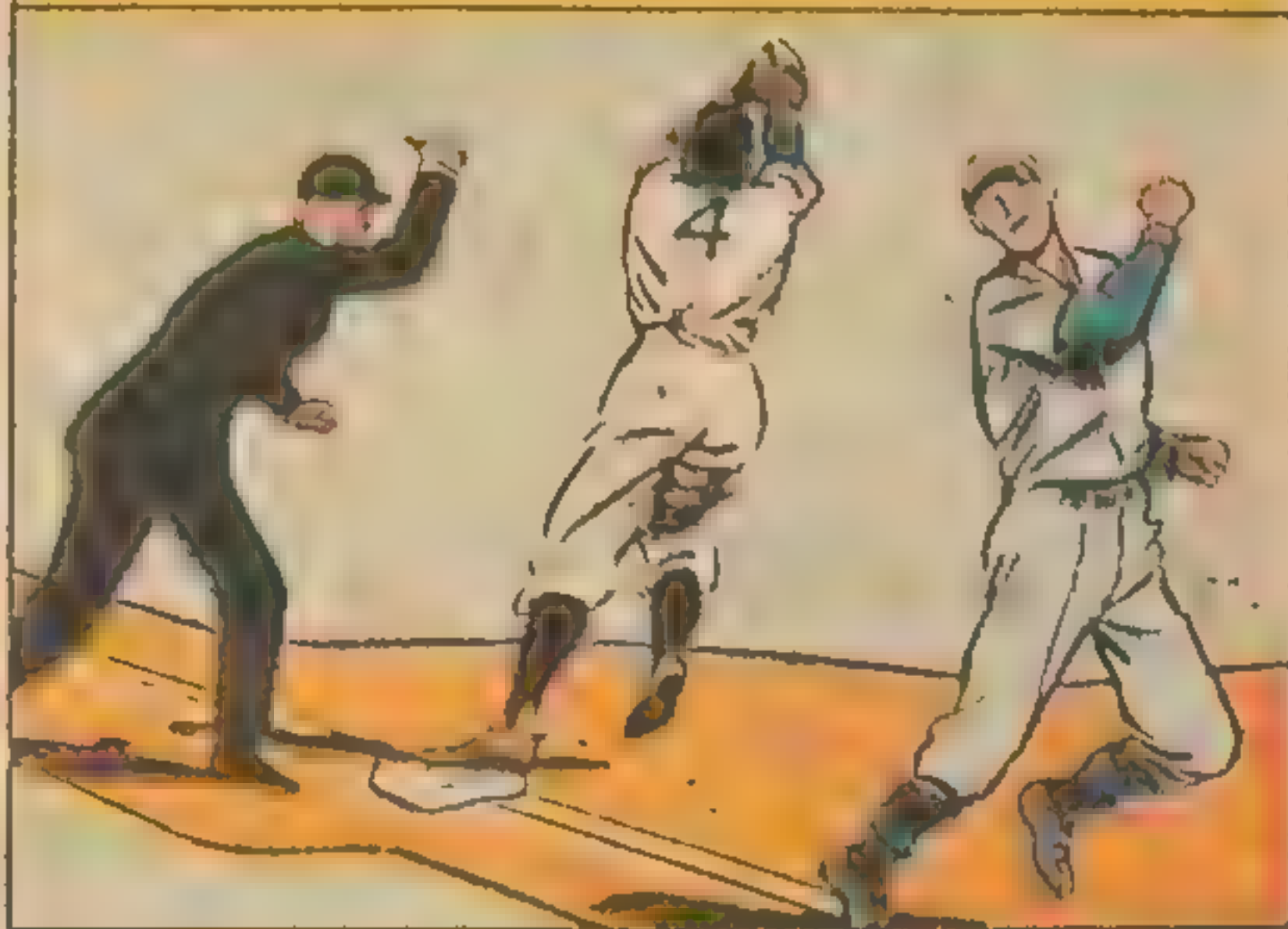


OVER 20 PLAYERS HAVE GONE "SIX FOR SIX." BUT WHAT PLAYER MADE SEVEN BASE HITS IN SEVEN TIMES AT BAT?

IN JANUARY, 1937, LOU WAS AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE KEY BY THE YOUNG MEN'S BOARD OF TRADE - THE FIRST TIME IT HAD EVER BEEN AWARDED TO A BASEBALL PLAYER . . .



AND ONCE THE 1937 SEASON STARTED, THE NEW YANKEES PROVED THEMSELVES AS POWERFUL AS THE OLD YANKEES. WITH LOU CLUBBING AWAY AT A .351 CLIP, THEY RAN AWAY WITH THE PENNANT . . .



LOU HIT A HOME RUN IN THE ALL STAR GAME . . .



AND IN THE WORLD SERIES HE CONNECTED FOR HIS TENTH SERIES HOME RUN . . .

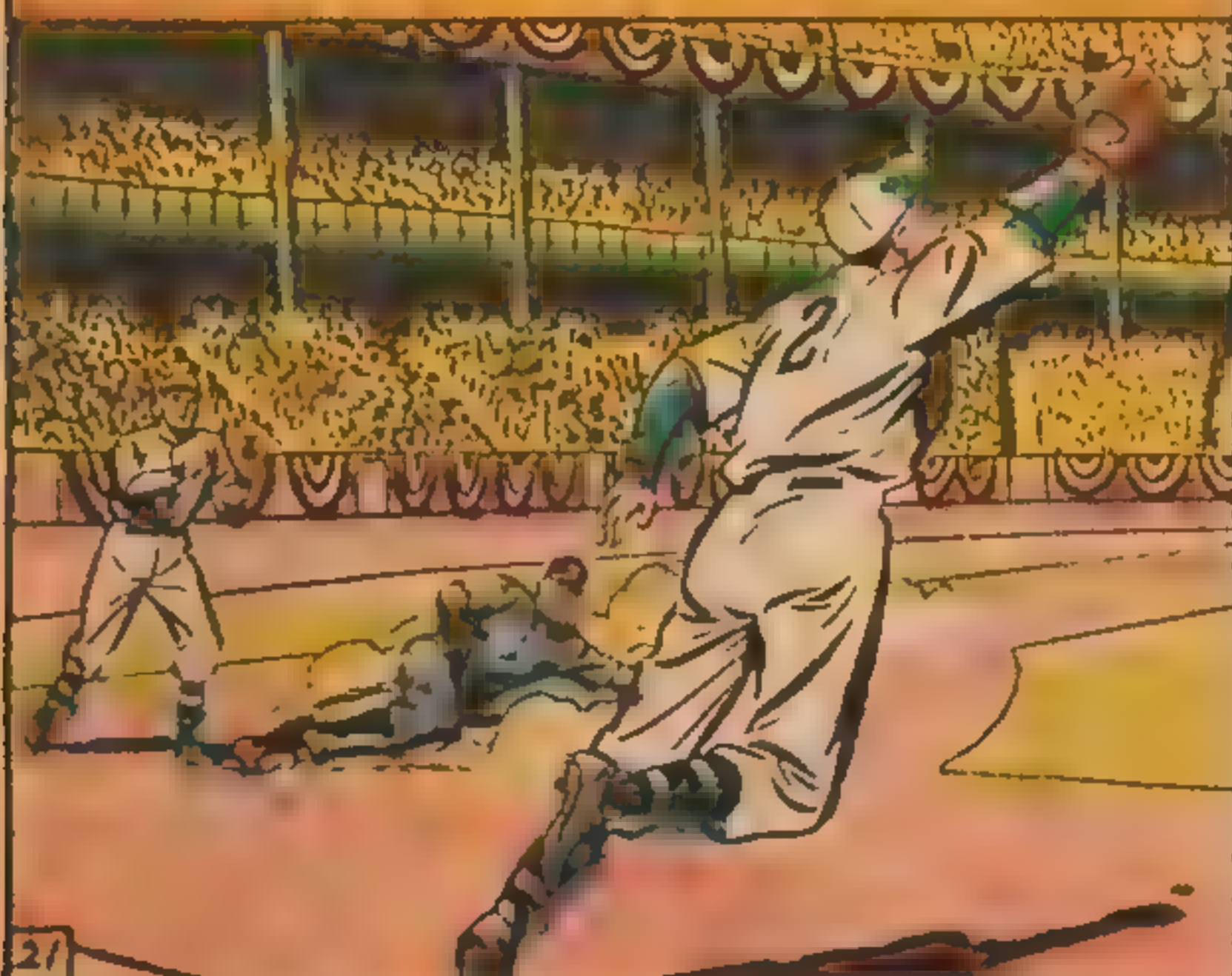


LOU LOOKED FORWARD TO ANOTHER GOOD YEAR IN 1938, BUT SOMETHING WAS WRONG . .

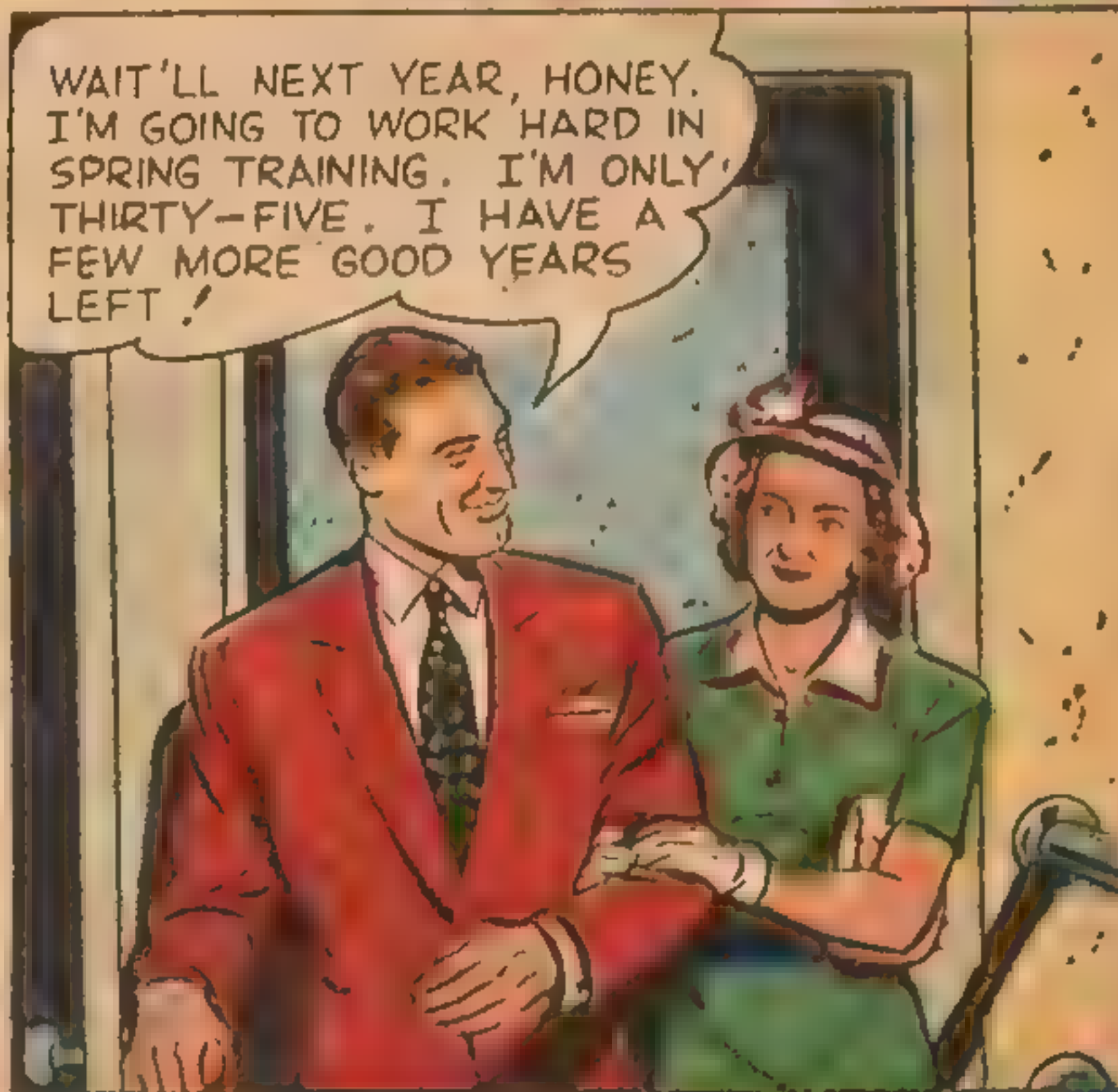
LOU CERTAINLY IS IN A SLUMP. HE'LL SNAP OUT OF IT, BILL. I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT LOU!



LOU HIT THE BALL, BUT WITHOUT POWER, AND HE HAD TO WORK HARD TO PUSH HIS BATTING MARK UP TO .295 . . .

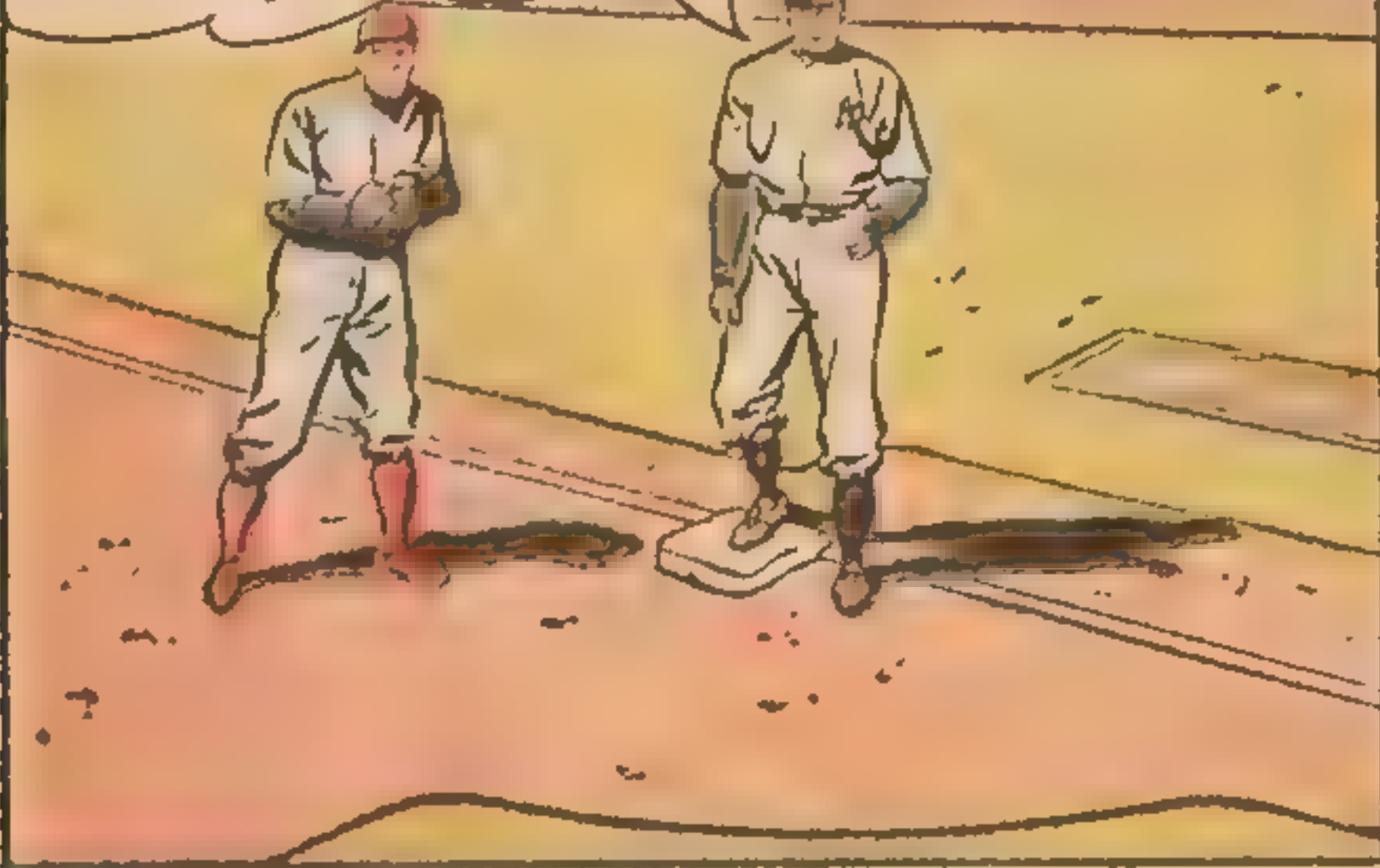


WAIT'LL NEXT YEAR, HONEY. I'M GOING TO WORK HARD IN SPRING TRAINING. I'M ONLY THIRTY-FIVE. I HAVE A FEW MORE GOOD YEARS LEFT!



IN THE 1938 WORLD SERIES AGAINST THE CARDINALS, LOU CONNECTED FOR ONLY FOUR SINGLES...

I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT. I TAGGED THAT PITCH-- BUT IT JUST BLOODED OVER THE INFIELD!



IT'S ALMOST AS IF... AS IF I DON'T HAVE ANY STRENGTH. BUT THAT'S SILLY. I'M JUST AS BIG AND AS STRONG AS EVER!



WITH A FRENZY OF INTENSITY, LOU FLUNG HIMSELF INTO THE 1939 SPRING TRAINING CAMPAIGN. HE RAN BASES LIKE A YOUNGSTER, STAYED AT THE PARK UNTIL DARK TO GET IN SHAPE...

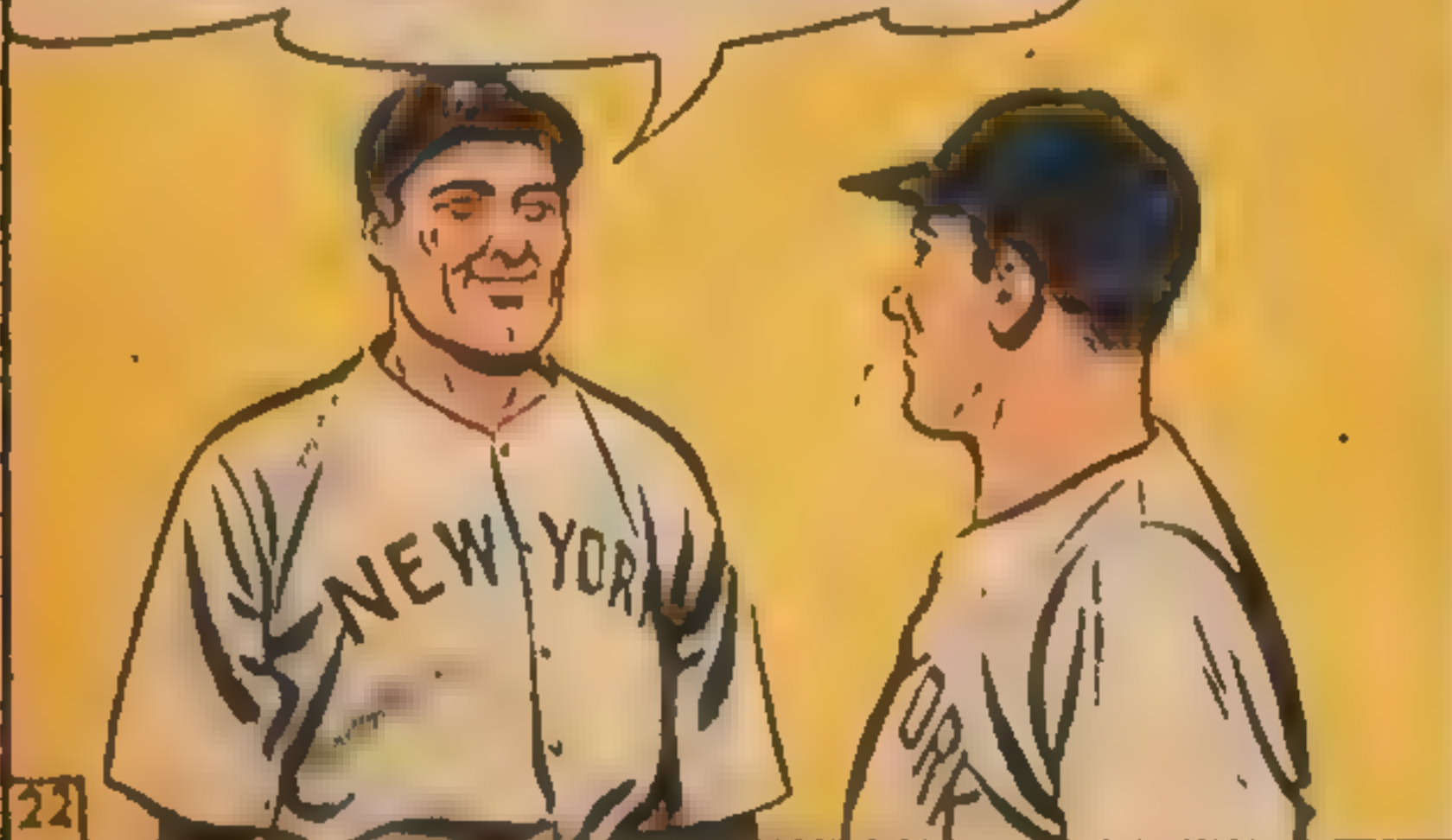


YET EVERYTHING HE DID SEEMED OF NO AVAIL. HE WAS AWKWARD AT THE PLATE...



AFTER 8 GAMES IN THE 1939 SEASON-- TO MAKE HIS MATCHLESS STRING OF 2130 CONSECUTIVE BALL GAMES-- LOU TOOK HIMSELF OUT OF A BALL GAME FOR THE FIRST, AND LAST, TIME...

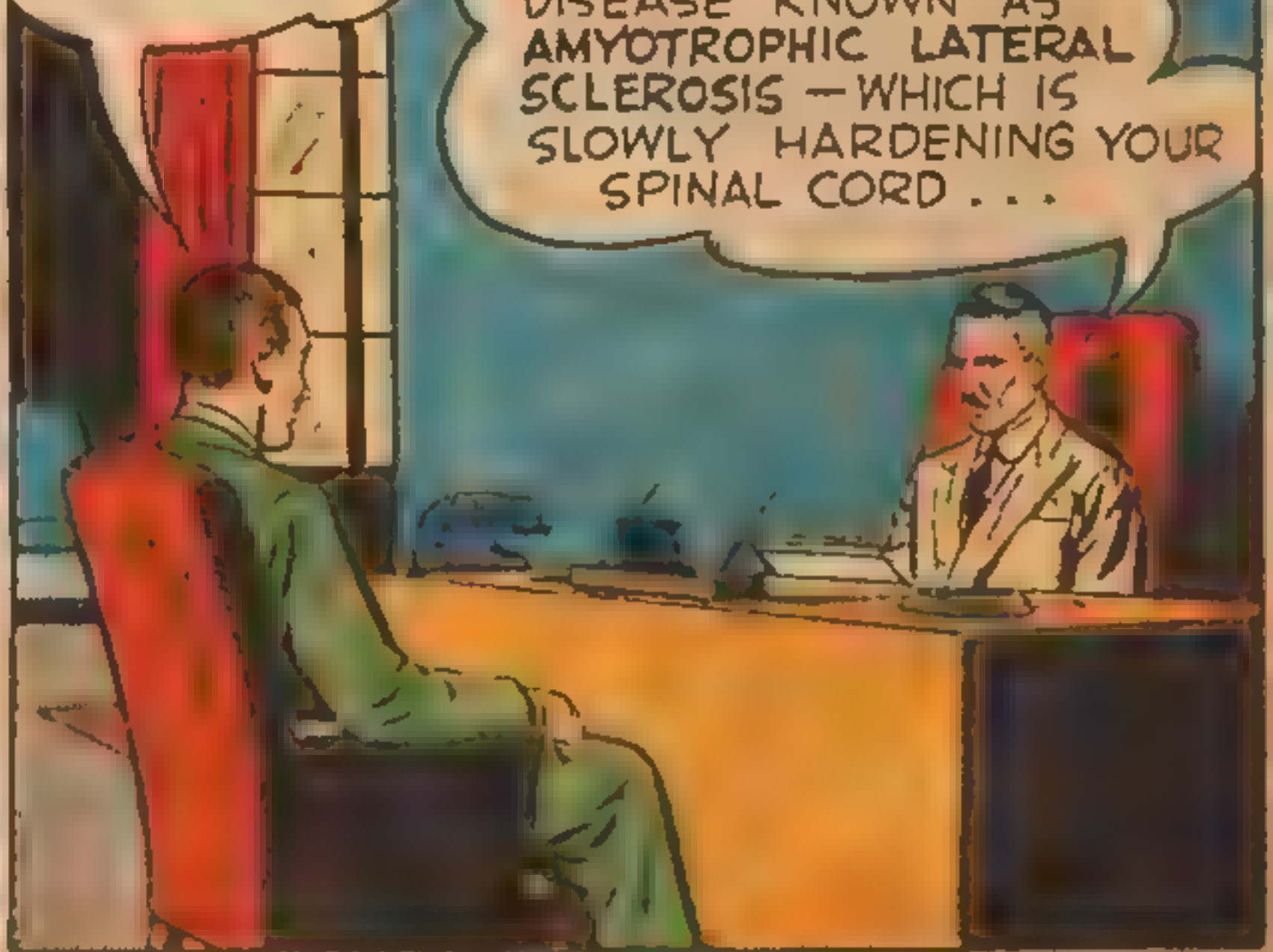
I'M NOT HELPING THE YANKEES, JOE. I THINK I'D BETTER SIT OUT A FEW...



IN THE MIDDLE OF JUNE, AT THE MAYO CLINIC.

LET'S HAVE IT, DOCTOR!

ALL RIGHT, LOU. YOU HAVE A PARALYZING NERVE DISEASE KNOWN AS AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS-- WHICH IS SLOWLY HARDENING YOUR SPINAL CORD...



FIVE MEN HAVE HIT FOUR HOME RUNS IN A SINGLE GAME. LOU GEHRIG WAS ONE. CAN YOU NAME THE OTHER FOUR?

THE BLOW SHOCKED THE YANKEES. IT SADDENED AND FRIGHTENED THE ENTIRE BASEBALL WORLD. THE DURABLE DUTCHMAN...THE IRON HORSE...BIG STURDY LOU WHO NEVER MISSED A GAME - SENTENCED TO DEATH!

BY ORDERS OF THE DOCTORS, HE NEVER PLAYED ANOTHER GAME. INSTEAD, HE CARRIED BATTING LINEUPS TO THE UMPIRES.

AND FROM THE DUGOUT, ALL DURING THAT 1939 SEASON, LOU WATCHED HIS MATES GO ON WITHOUT HIM....

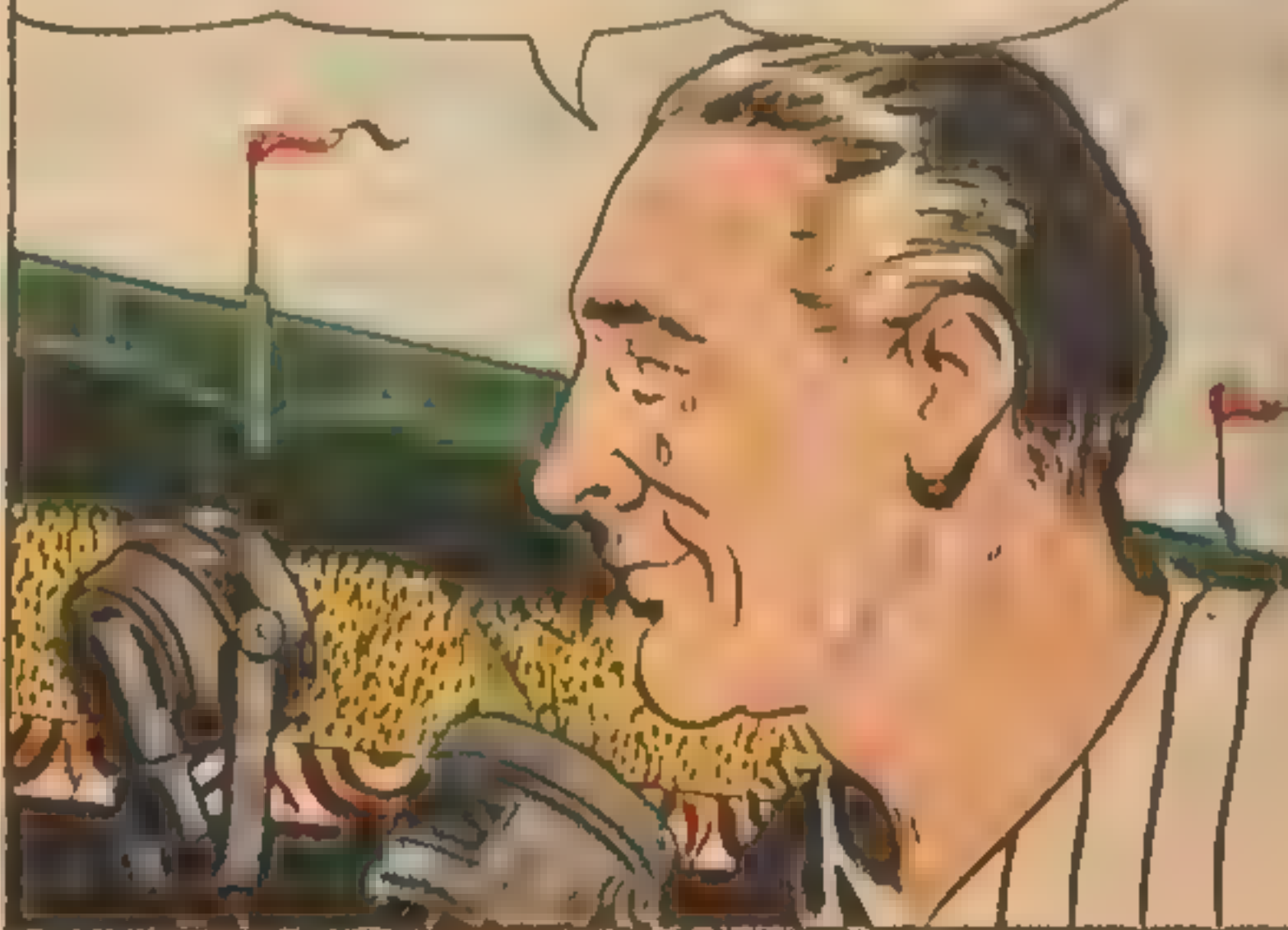


THE FOURTH OF JULY, 1939, WAS LOU GEHRIG DAY AT YANKEE STADIUM. HERE LOU WAS MET BY THE MEMBERS OF HIS OLD YANKEE TEAM, THE 1927 WONDERS, AND THE NEW YANKEES...



IN A CHOKED VOICE, TEARS STREAMING DOWN HIS TANNED CHEEKS, LOU WHISPERED...

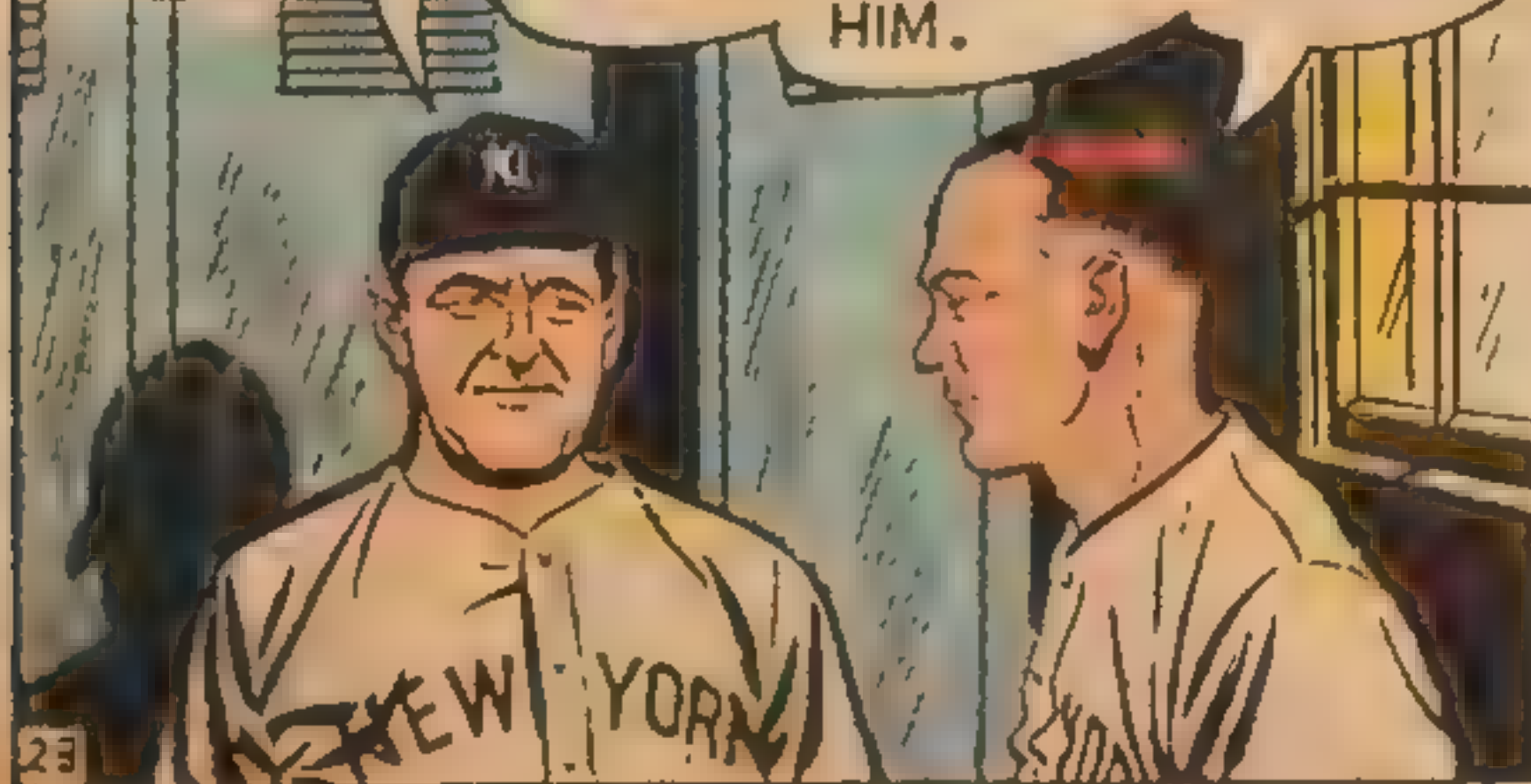
...I STILL CONSIDER MYSELF ONE OF THE LUCKIEST GUYS IN THE WORLD!



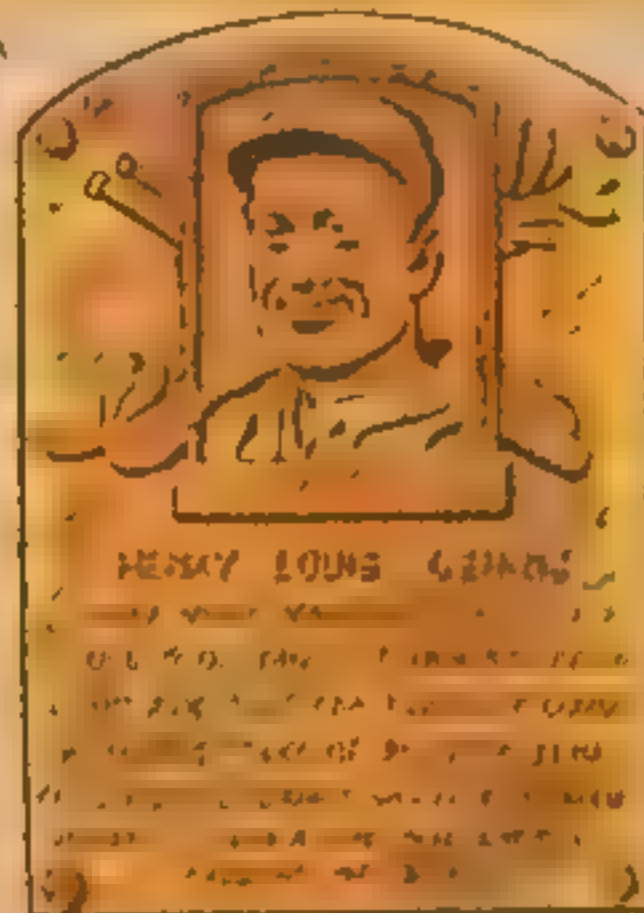
LOU LINGERED ON HIS BED ALMOST TWO YEARS. HE WAS APPROXIMATED NEW YORK CITY PAROLE COMMISSIONER BY MAYOR LAUGHLIN AND WAS HAPPY IN HIS WORK. AND THEN, ON JULY 4, 1941, LOU GEHRIG PASSED AWAY...

WELL, A GREAT GUY DIED TODAY, BILL...

I KNOW, JOE. NOBODY UNDERSTANDS JUST HOW GREAT EXCEPT THOSE WHO'VE BEEN IN STEADY CONTACT WITH HIM.

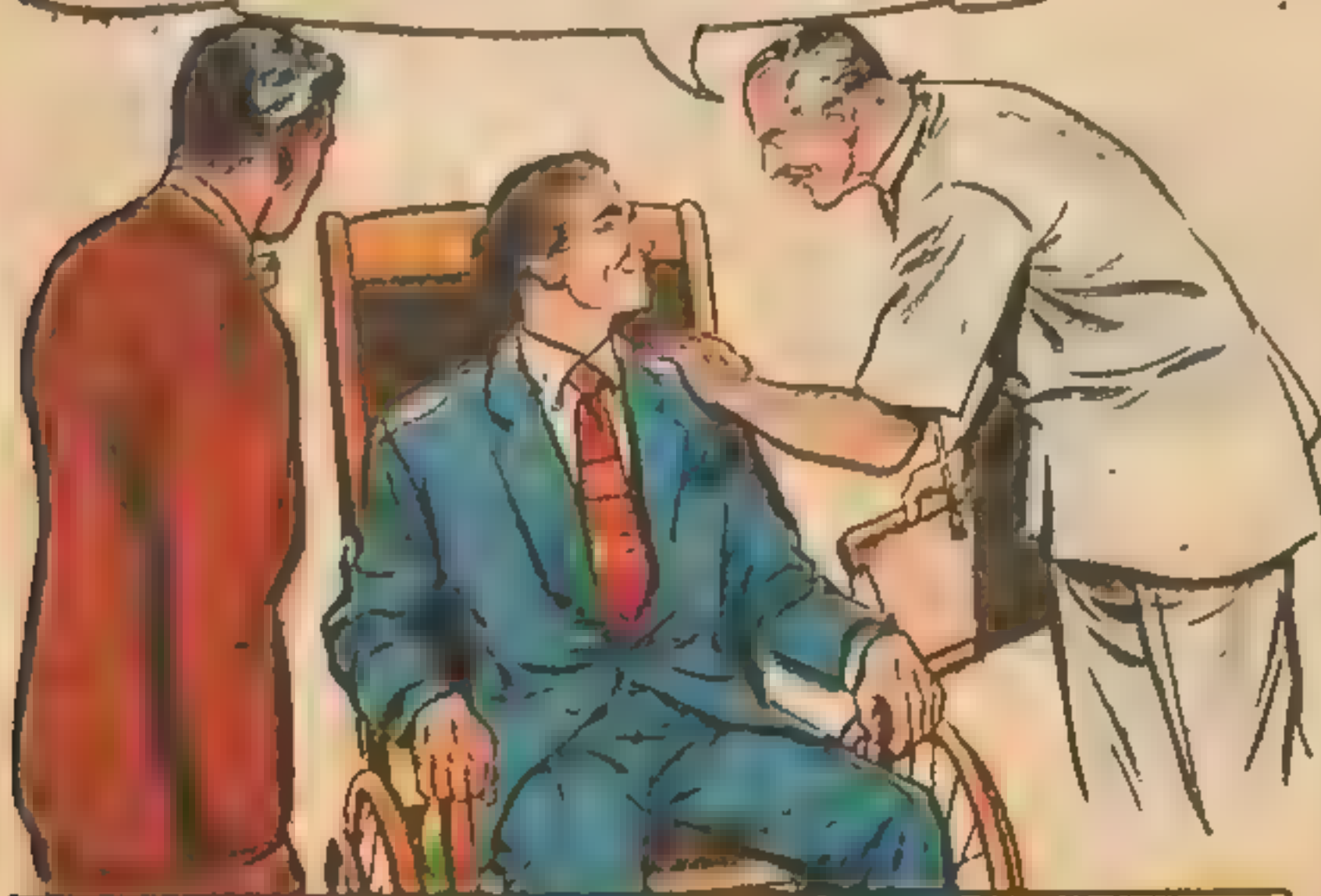


JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEATH, LOU WAS VOTED A PLACE IN THE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AT COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK. TODAY, HIS METAL PLAQUE HANGS THERE, A TRIBUTE TO THE MAN WHO MADE HIMSELF ONE OF THE GREATEST FIRST BASEMEN OF ALL TIME BY SHEER SPIRIT AND DETERMINATION AND HARD WORK, PLUS THE GIFT OF TERRIFIC BATTING POWER AT THE PLATE...

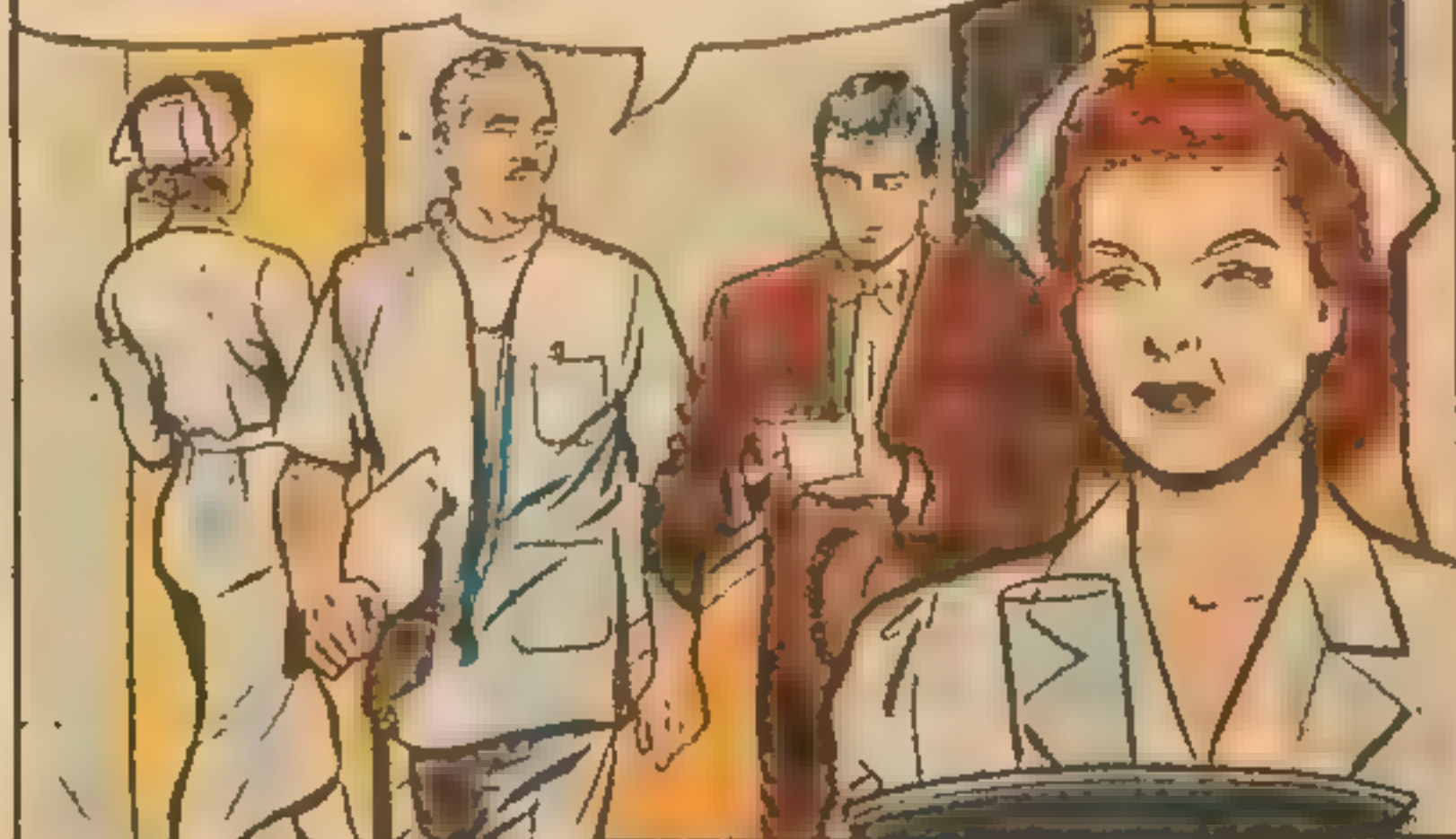


A LIVING MEMORIAL TO *Lou Gehrig*

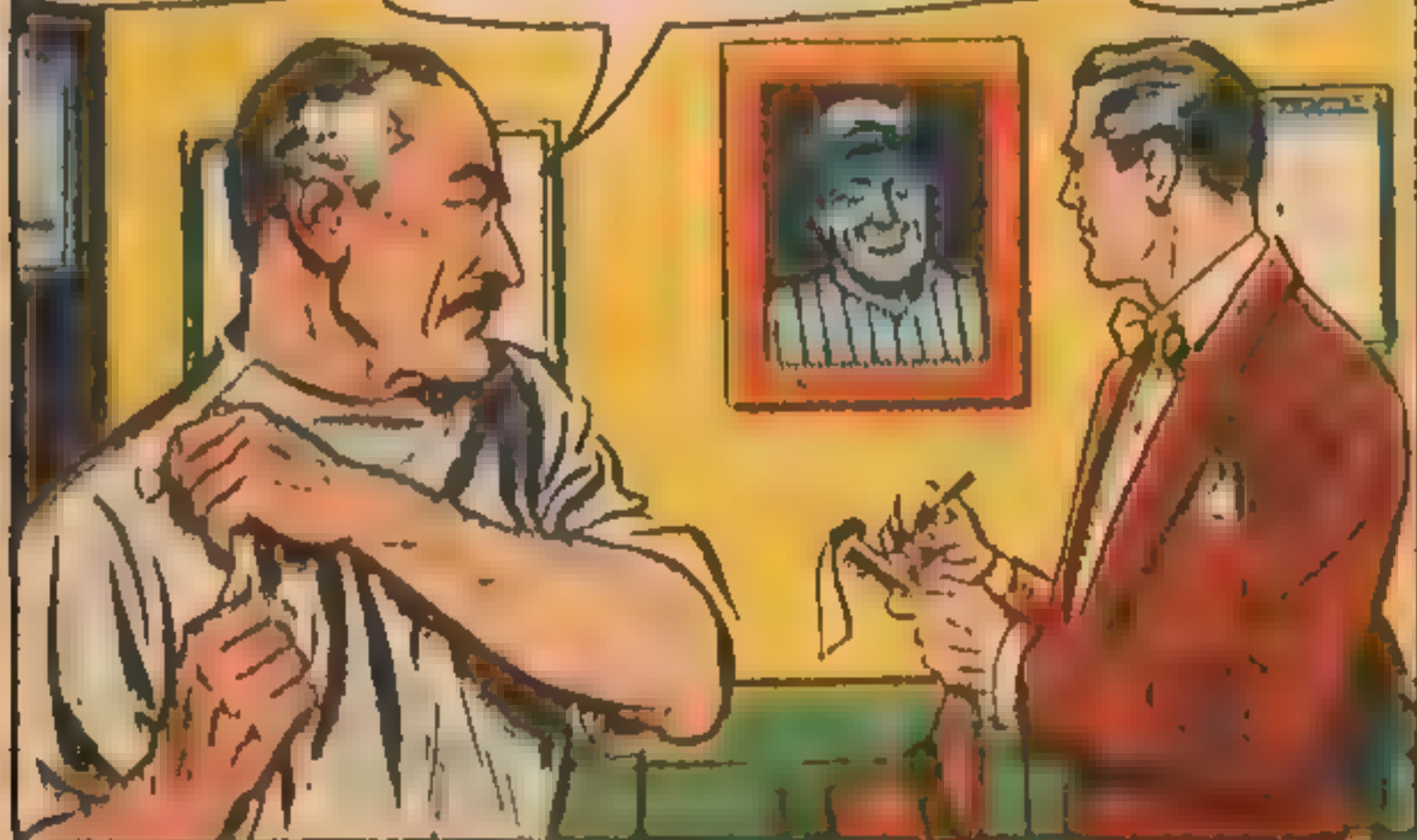
KEEP THAT CHIN UP, TOM. MAYBE WE CAN GET YOU BACK ON THE FOOTBALL TEAM NEXT FALL. WE'LL CERTAINLY DO OUR BEST.



THE WORST FEATURE OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS IS THAT IT ALWAYS SEEMS TO ATTACK YOUNG, VIGOROUS PEOPLE. TAKE TOM. ONE MORNING HE WOKE UP WITH BLURRED VISION. A FEW MONTHS LATER HE COULDN'T WALK. NOW HE'S ALMOST COMPLETELY PARALYZED...



LOU GEHRIG, OF COURSE, WAS THE CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF A FINE ATHLETE STRICKEN AT THE HEIGHT OF HIS CAREER. LOU HAD A RELATED DISEASE KNOWN AS AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS. THE SYMPTOMS ARE ALMOST THE SAME.

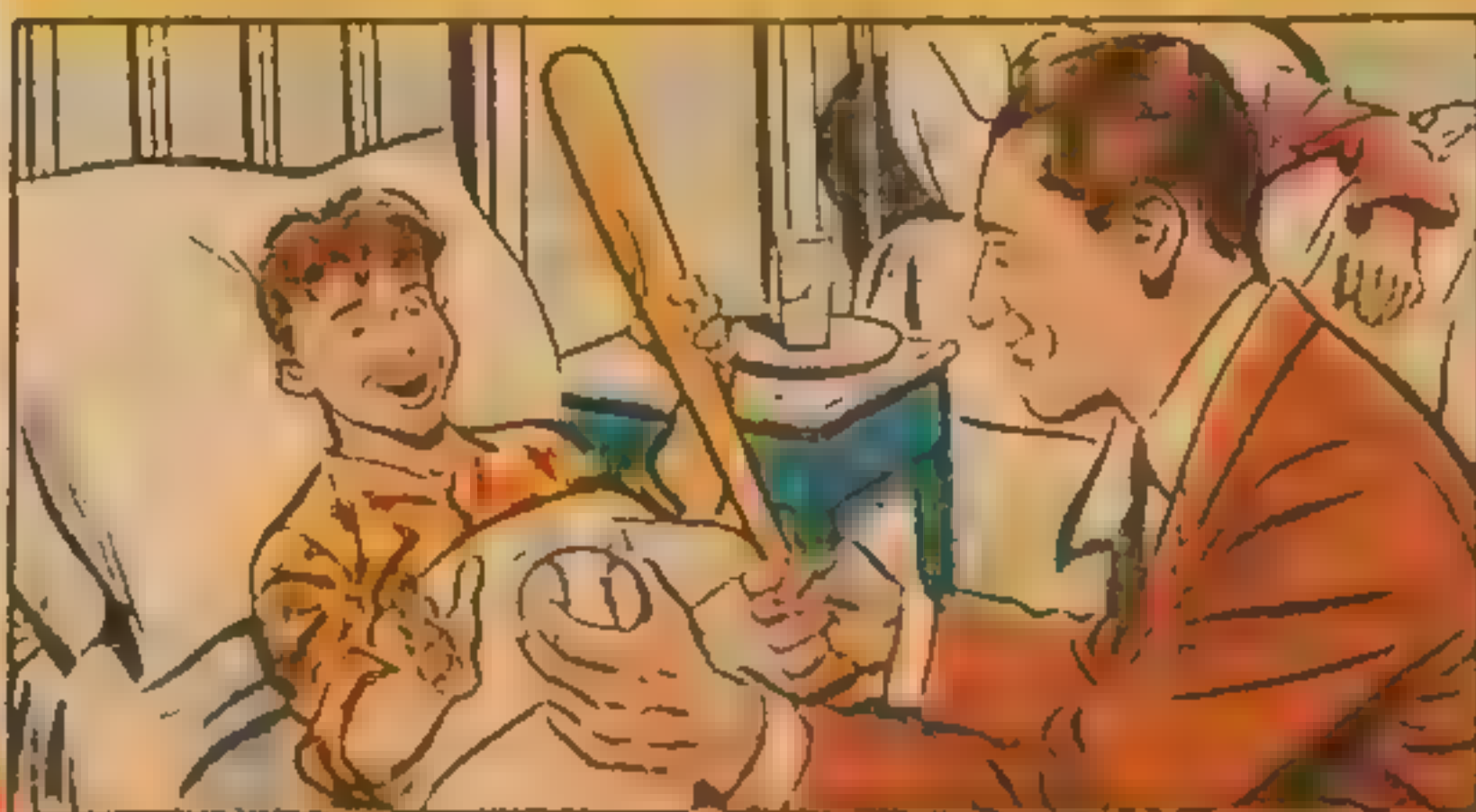
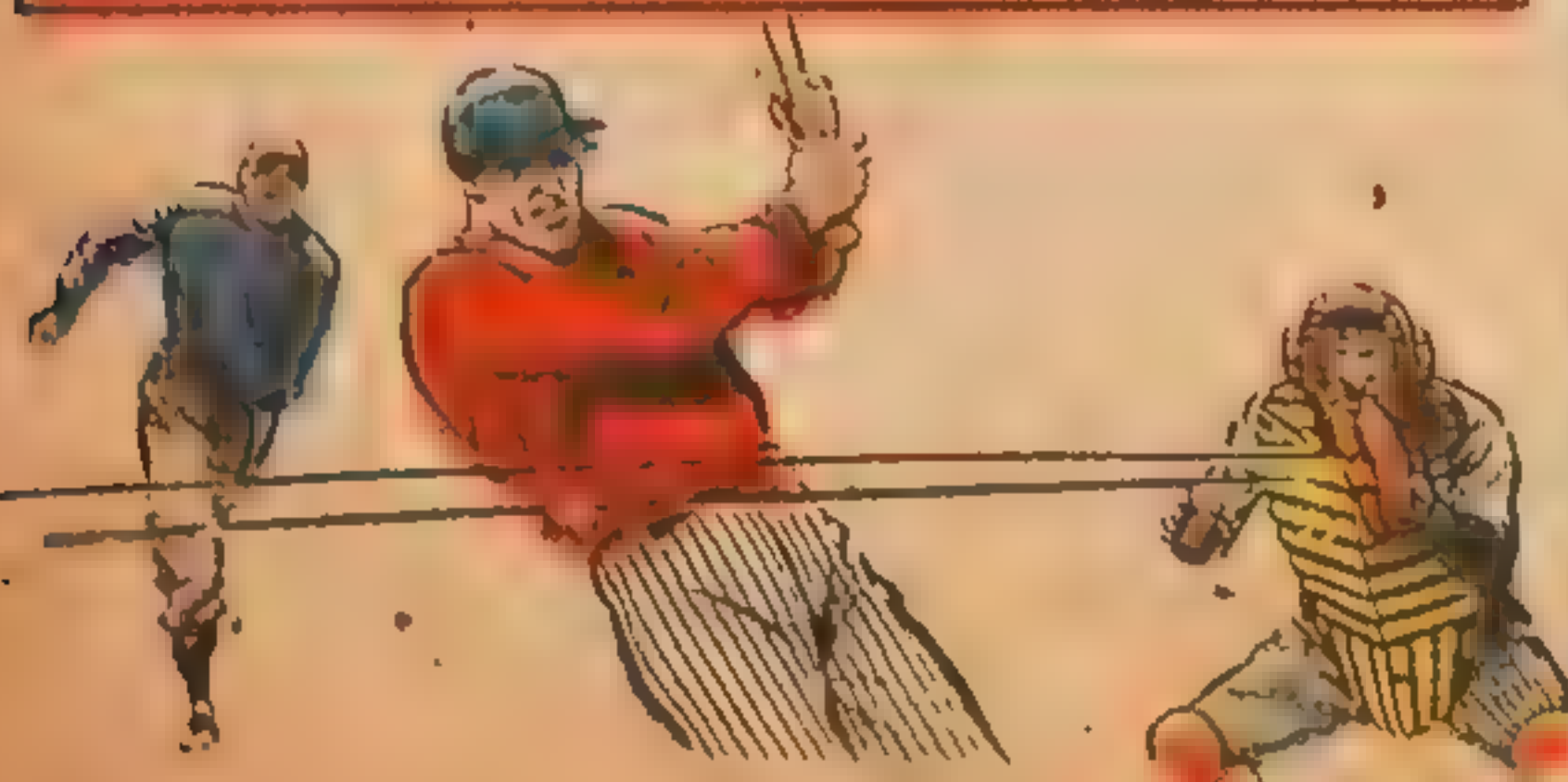


"YOU KNOW HOW GEHRIG'S COORDINATION SLIPPED IN 1938 -- AND HIS BATTING AVERAGE TOO. WELL, ONE DAY THE FOLLOWING WINTER, LOU WENT SKATING WITH HIS WIFE. ALWAYS A FINE SKATER, THAT DAY HE FOUND HE COULDN'T MAINTAIN HIS BALANCE. HE FELL REPEATEDLY..."

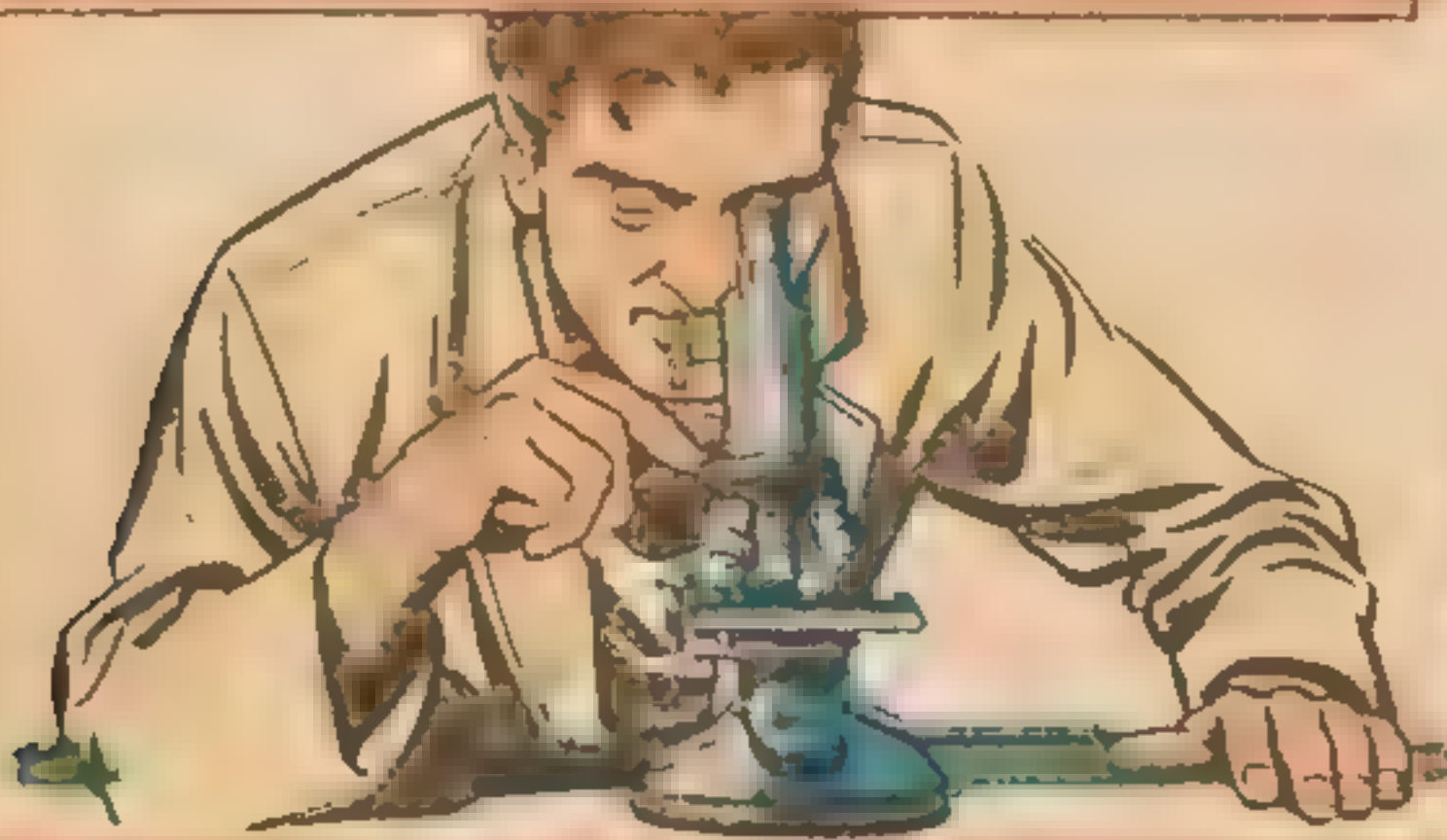


"IN 1939 SPRING TRAINING, LOU'S PLAY INDICATED THAT THERE WAS SOMETHING VERY WRONG. HE COULDN'T HIT THE BALL OUT OF THE INFIELD, HE BORRLED EASY GROUNDERS! ONE DAY, STEPPING BACK TO AVOID BEING HIT BY A CLOSE PITCHED BALL, HE COULDN'T STOP -- HE WOULD HAVE FALLEN FLAT ON HIS BACK IF ANOTHER PLAYER HADN'T CAUGHT HIM..."

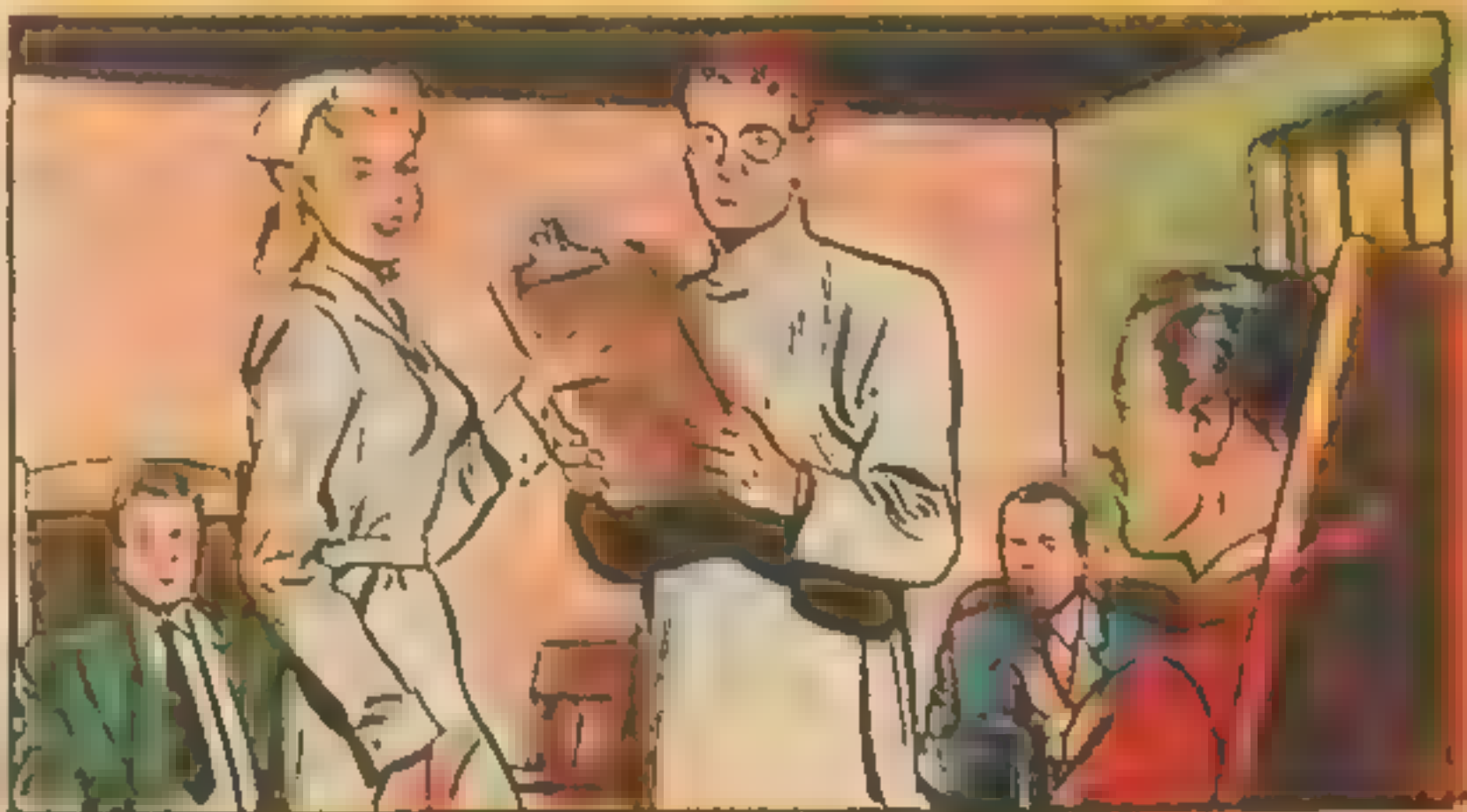
"GEHRIG PLAYED HIS LAST GAME OF BALL TEN YEARS AGO, IN MAY, 1939. THIS YEAR, THE LOU GEHRIG MEMORIAL FUND OF THE NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY HAS BEEN STARTED IN HIS HONOR. IT'S EXACTLY THE MEMORIAL LOU WOULD HAVE WANTED, BECAUSE IT HELPS OTHER PEOPLE..."



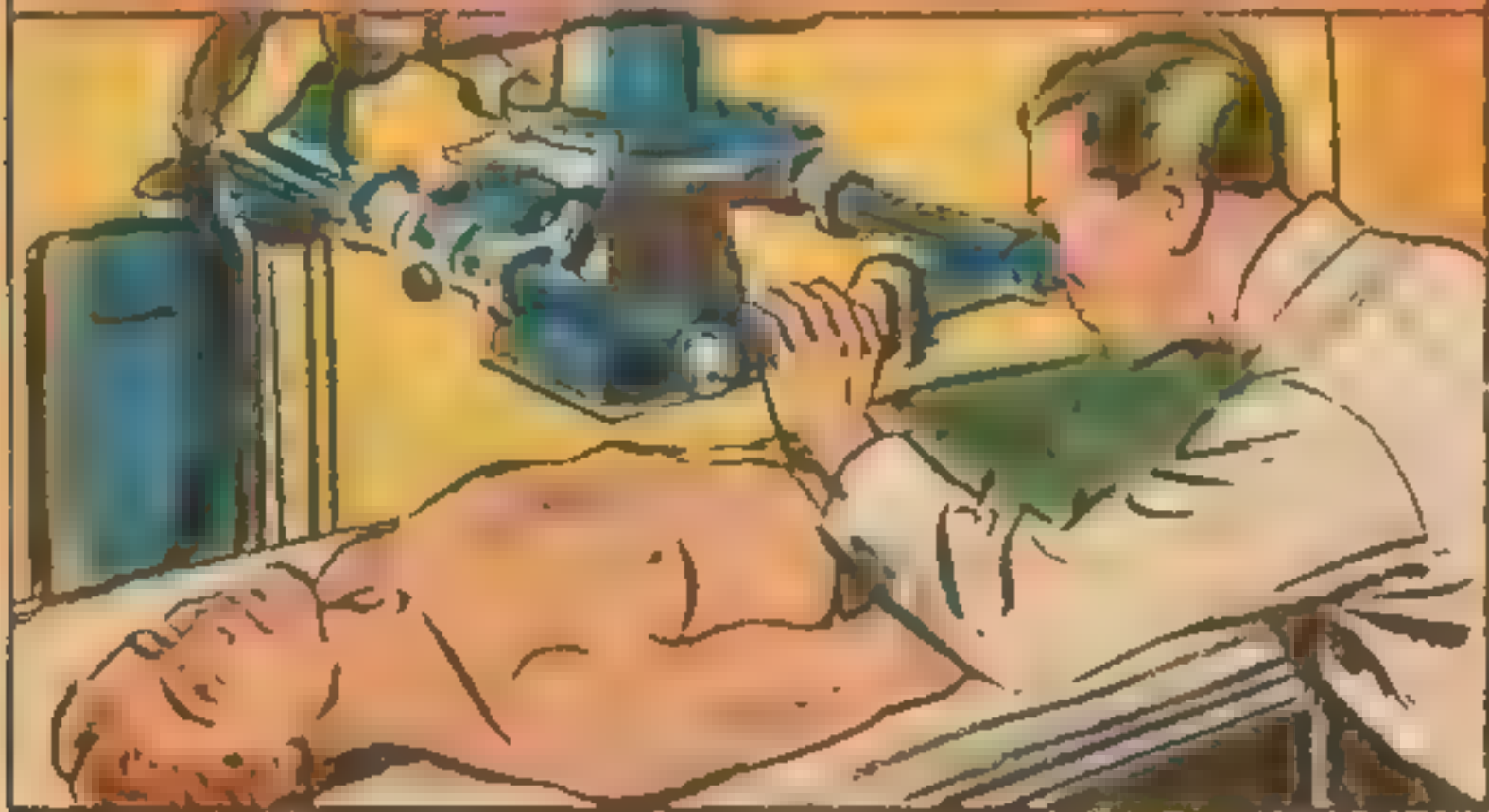
"MEDICAL RESEARCH IS AN EXPENSIVE PROPOSITION, REQUIRING MANY TRAINED WORKERS, COSTLY EQUIPMENT AND LABORATORY SPACE. YET, DISEASE CAN BE CONQUERED ONLY THROUGH RESEARCH. THE NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY IS SUPPORTING NINE BASIC RESEARCH PROJECTS AT VARIOUS MEDICAL SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY..."



"FREE CLINICS FOR MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SUFFERERS ARE MAINTAINED IN TWO CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES. THESE CLINICS PERMIT THE DOCTORS TO STUDY THE DISEASE CLOSELY AT VARIOUS STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT AND TO OBSERVE THE EFFECTS OF DIFFERENT FORMS OF TREATMENT..."



"THE NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY IS ANXIOUS TO EXPAND THIS PROGRAM AND TO ESTABLISH CLINICS IN OTHER CITIES: MORE CLINICS WILL MEAN MORE TRAINING IN THE DETECTION AND TREATMENT OF THIS DISEASE FOR MORE DOCTORS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND OTHER NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES..."



THE SUPPORT OF MEDICAL RESEARCH IS AN INVESTMENT IN HEALTH AND LONGER LIFE FOR YOURSELF, YOUR CHILDREN AND YOUR CHILDREN'S CHILDREN. THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS WHO WERE ONCE HEALTHY, ACTIVE CITIZENS, LEADING USEFUL LIVES, ARE NOW HELPLESS CRIPPLES BECAUSE OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS. MANY MORE THOUSANDS WHO ARE UNTOUCHED TODAY WILL BE VICTIMS TOMORROW UNLESS A CURE CAN BE FOUND FOR THIS INSIDIOUS DISEASE. AND LET'S UNDERSTAND THIS: UNLESS YOU HELP, THE CURE MAY NOT BE FOUND.....!



STRIKE OUT MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS!
GIVE TO THE LOU GEHRIG MEMORIAL FUND FOR THE NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY
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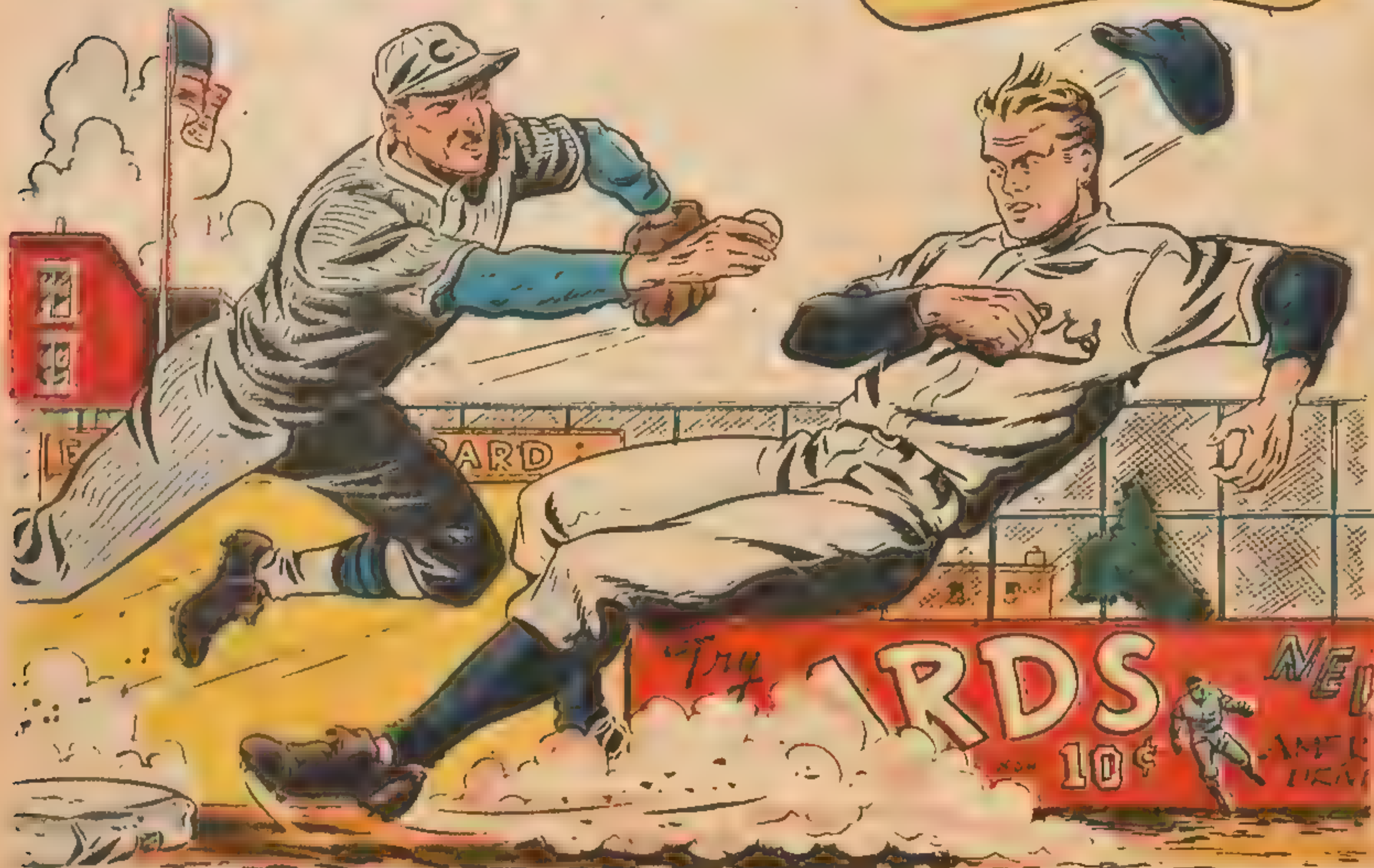
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THE RISE OF DAVE HUDSON

THERE IS A NEW NAME IN THE DOODER BOX SCORE THESE DAYS. HUDSON, I.F., HE ISN'T A REGULAR YET, BUT HE WILL BE. RIGHT NOW HE HAS SOME MORE TO LEARN ABOUT THIS GREAT GAME OF BASEBALL, BUT HE GETS INTO ENOUGH GAMES TO WHET HIS APPETITE FOR MORE.

HOW DID IT HAPPEN? WHAT MADE HIM INTO A BIG LEAGUER? WOULD YOU HAVE THE SAME CHANCE AS DAVE? DECIDE FOR YOURSELF AS WE TAKE YOU ALONG HIS PATH...



IT WAS AN EMBARRASSING DAY FOR DAVE WHEN HE ACCEPTED HIS PAL JOHNNY'S INVITATION TO PLAY WITH JOHNNY'S SANDLOT TERRIERS...



HEY, BUTTERFINGERS! FIELD IT WITH YOUR CHEST NEXT TIME!

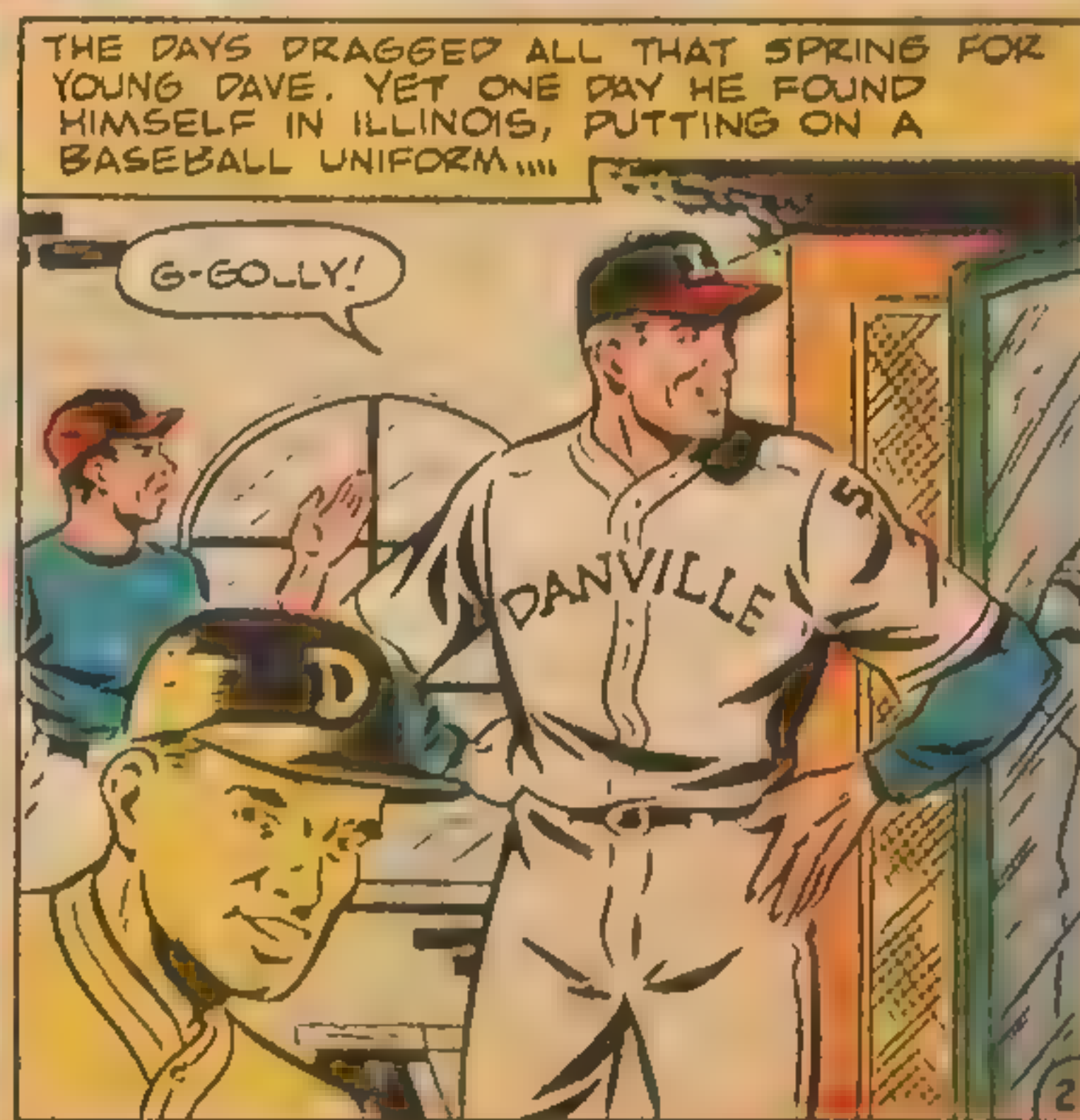
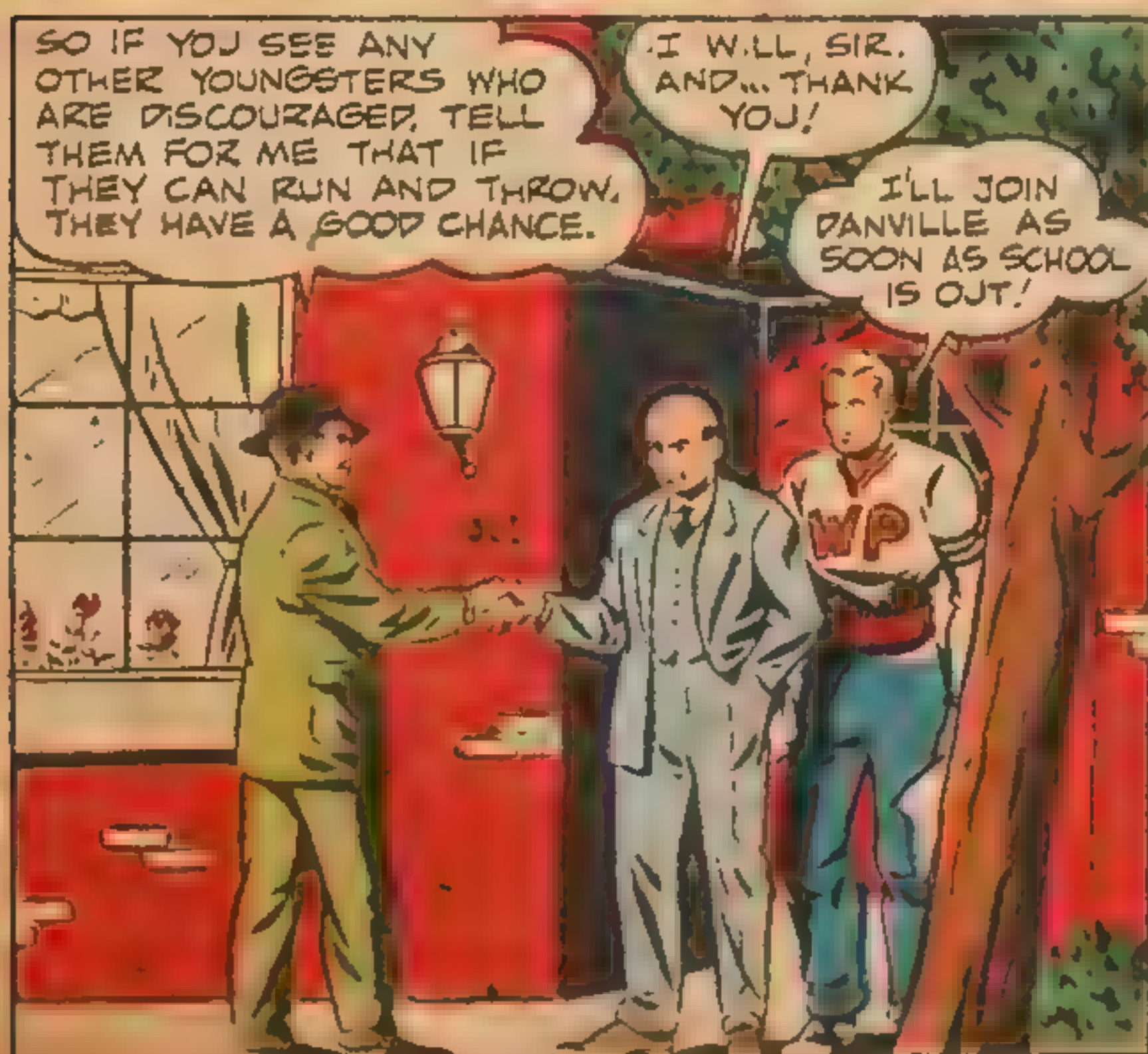
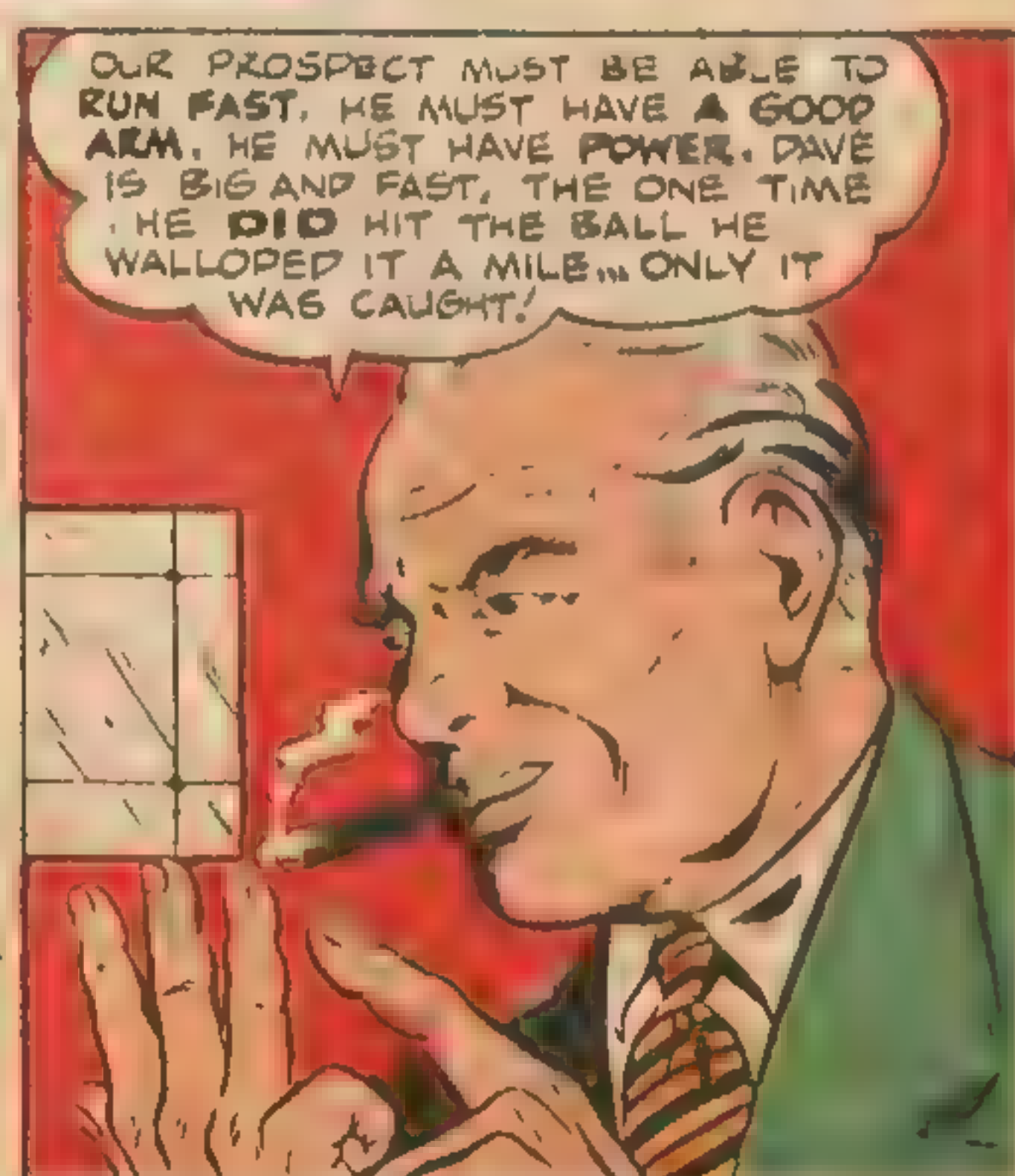
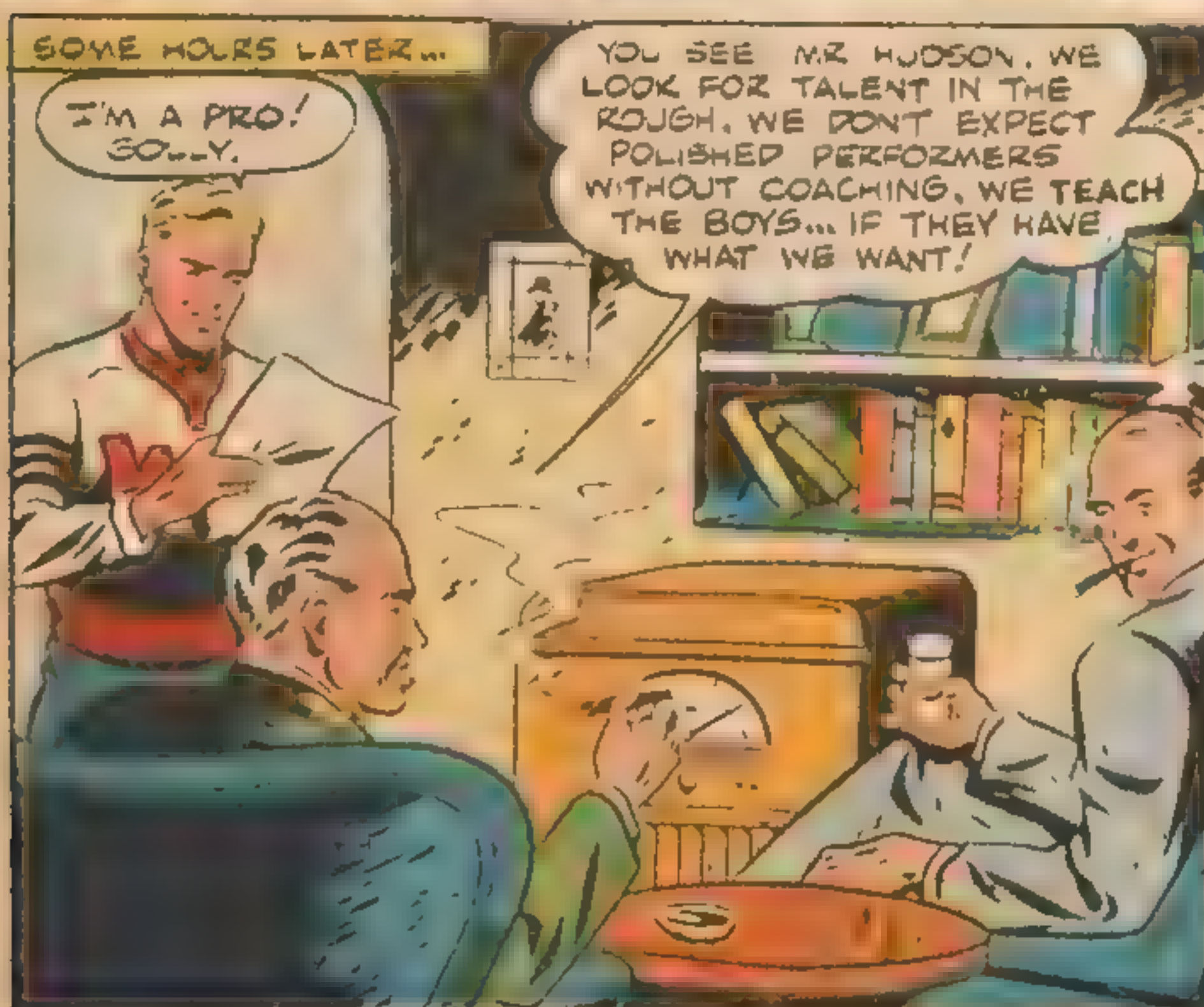
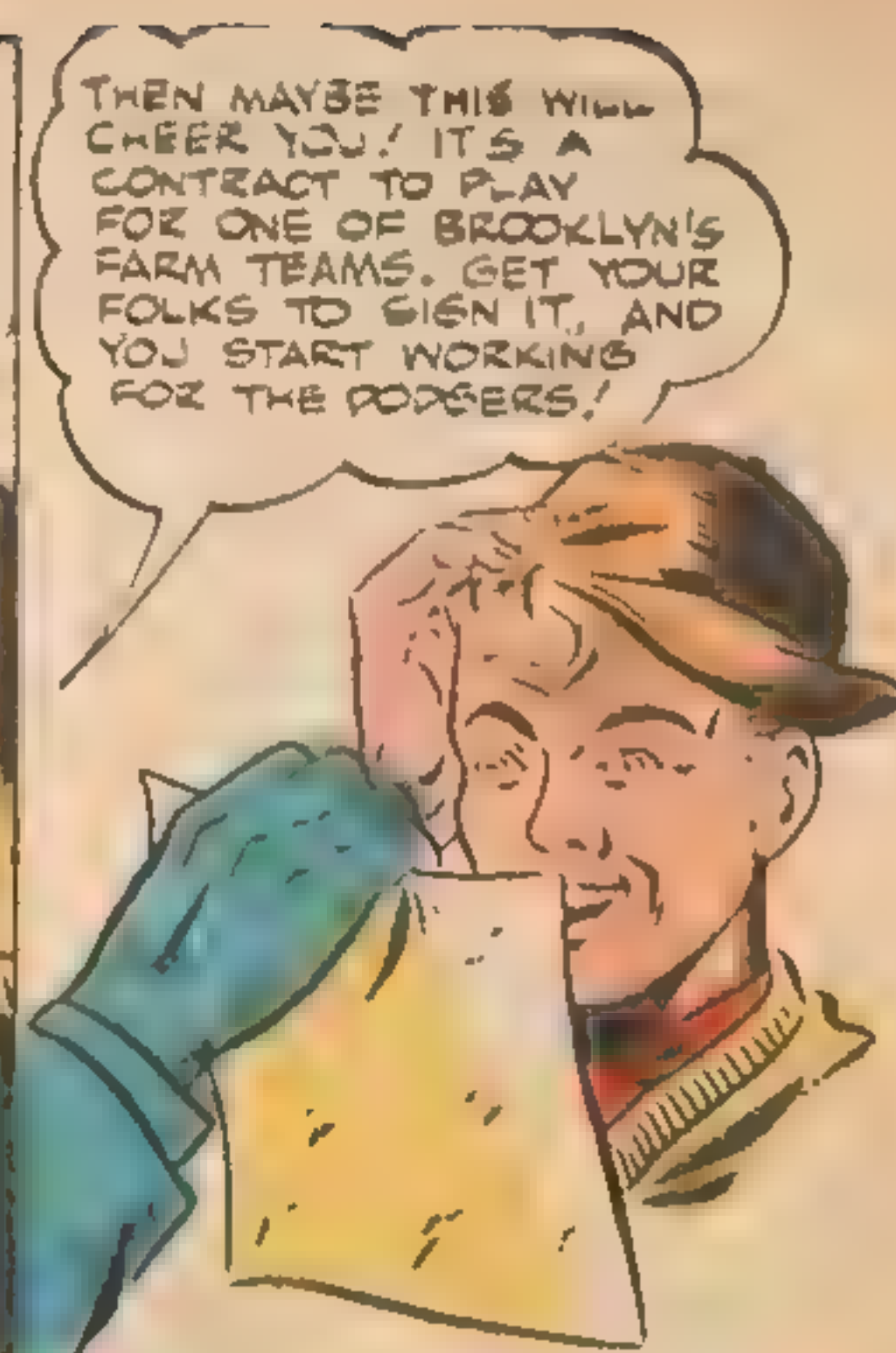
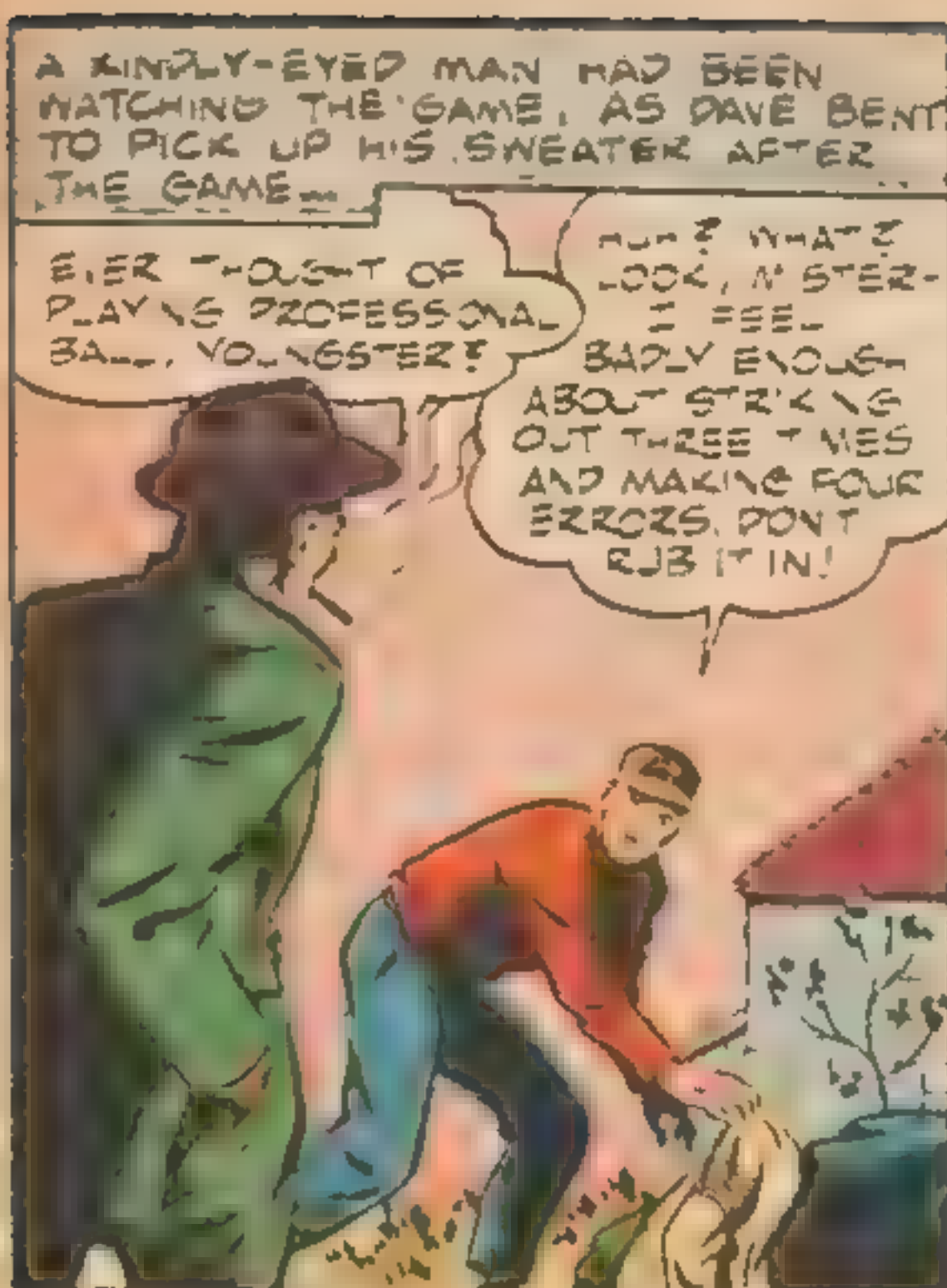


WILD THROW! HOLY MACKEREL!!! WHAT A DUB!

IT-IT S-SLIPPED!



HOW MANY PLAYERS HAVE APPEARED IN OVER 3000 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GAMES?

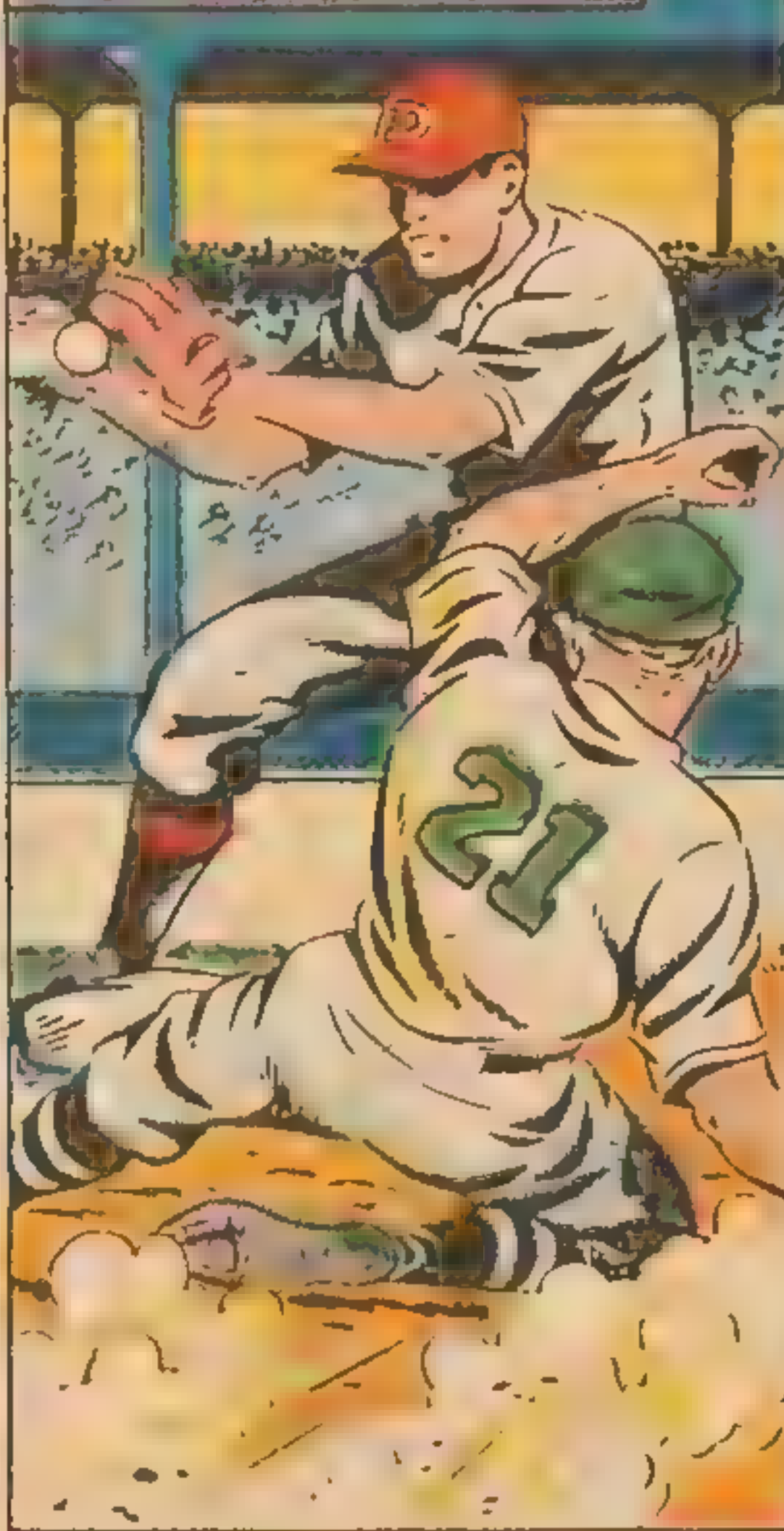


FOR THREE DAYS, DAVE TOOK INFIELD PRACTICE WITH THE TEAM. ON THE FOURTH DAY, HE WAS SENT IN TO PINCH-HIT!

GOT HOLD OF THAT ONE! OUGHT TO BE GOOD FOR A DOUBLE!

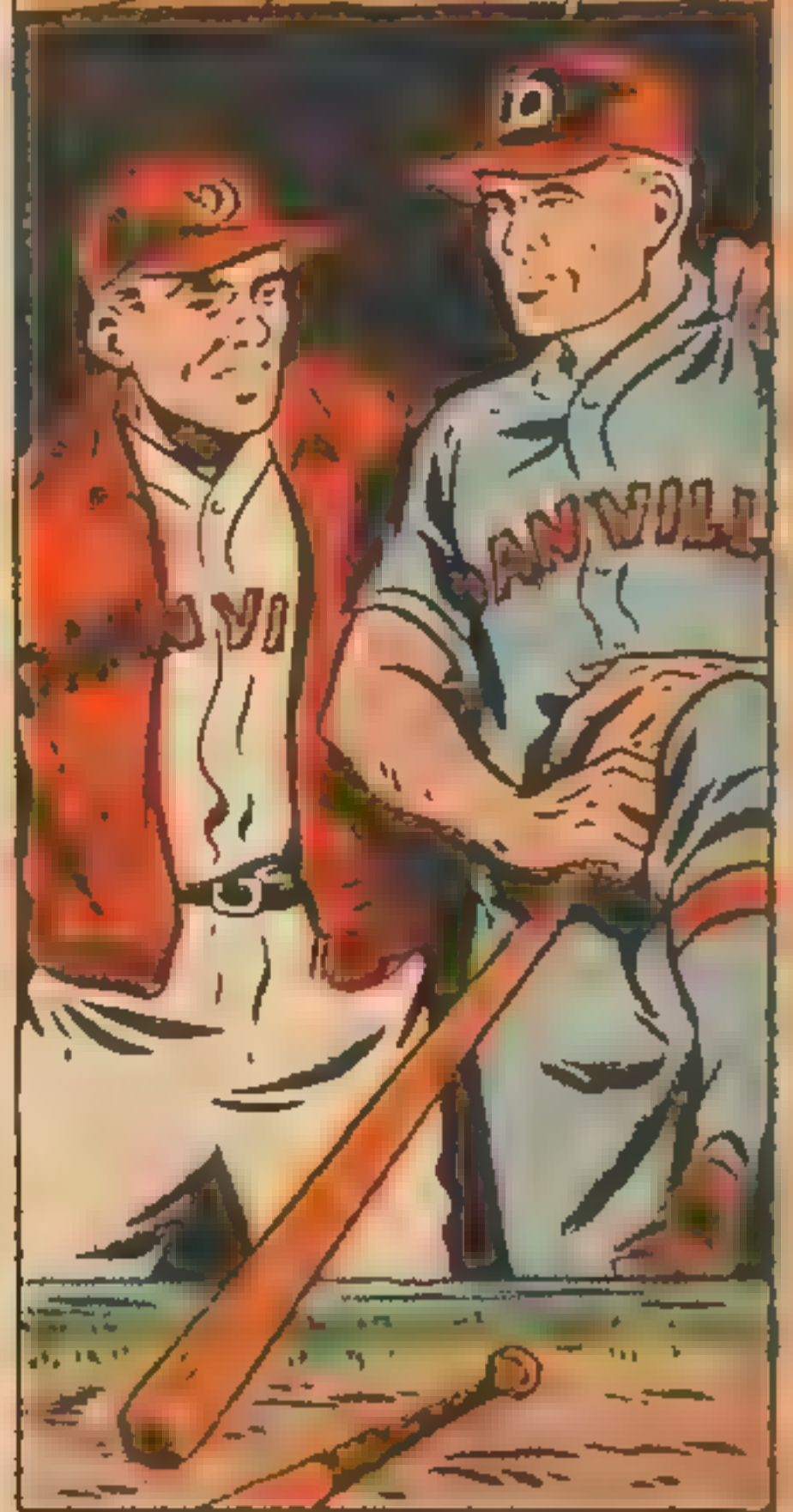


GRADUALLY, DAVE WAS WORKED INTO THE LINE-UP, SOMETIMES, IN A GAME IRRETRIEVABLY LOST. HE FILLED IN AT THIRD...



WE'RE GOING INTO THE PLAYOFFS NEXT WEEK, DAVE. THE SEASON IS ALMOST OVER. I'M LETTING YOU GO HOME TO WORK FOR NEXT YEAR...

BUT...



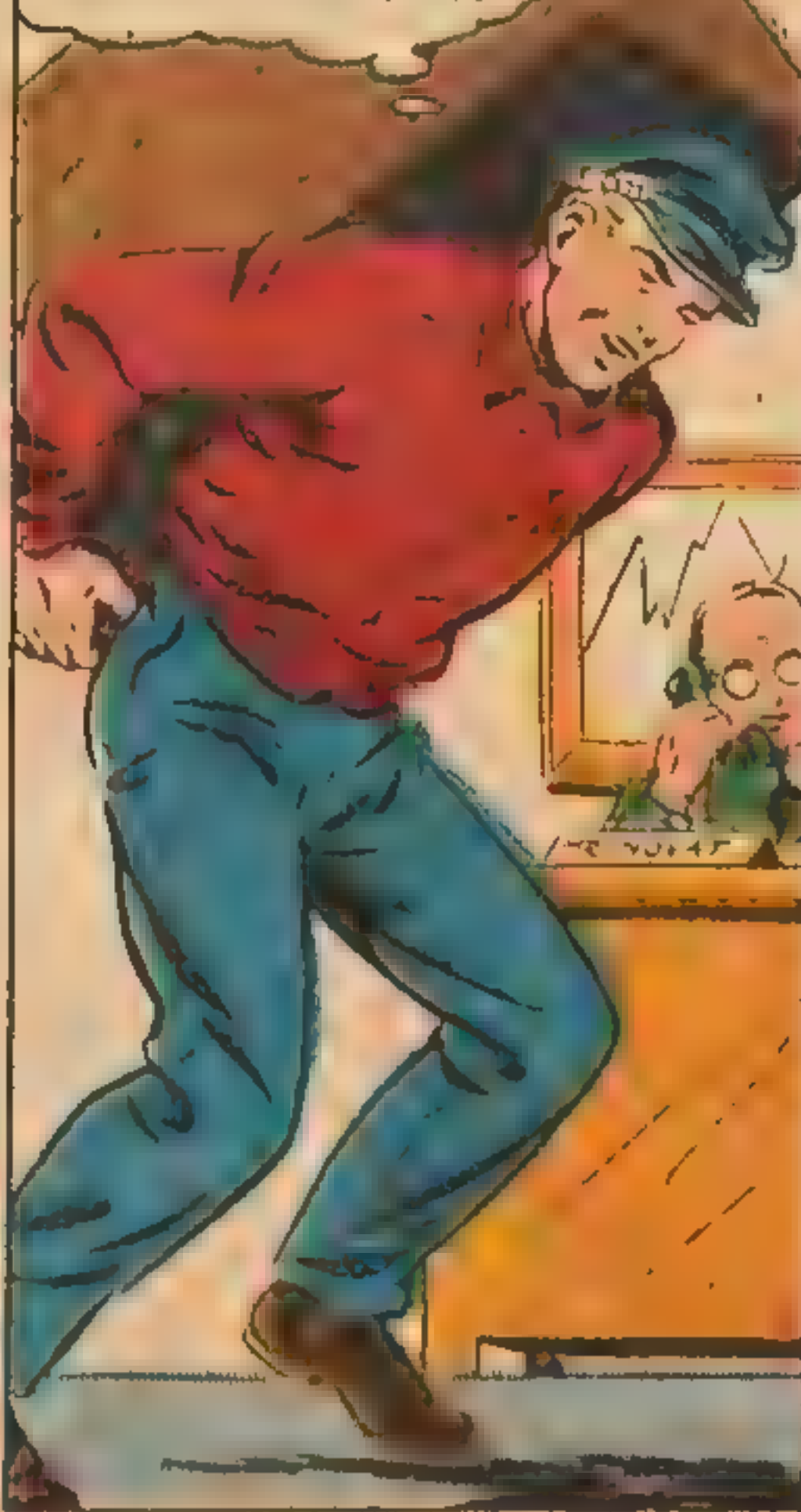
YOU'RE ONLY SEVENTEEN. WORK HARD THIS WINTER. DEVELOP YOUR MUSCLES. NEXT SPRING AT VERO BEACH, YOU'LL GET AN INTENSIVE COURSE OF TRAINING. I WANT YOU TO BE IN SHAPE FOR IT!

WHATEVER YOU SAY, SIR!



ALL THAT WINTER, DAVE LUGGED HEAVY OFFICE FURNITURE AROUND...

AFTER A SOLID DAY OF THIS, I'M SO TIRED I CAN'T GO OUT AT NIGHT.



WHEN THE ROBINS FLEW NORTH, DAVE WENT SOUTH. HE FOUND VERO BEACH A BASEBALL WONDER-LAND...

THERE ARE OVER 500 PLAYERS HERE... BUT SINCE THE DODGERS HAVE MORE THAN TWENTY FIVE MINOR LEAGUE TEAMS AND AFFILIATES, I GUESS I HAVE A FAIR CHANCE OF STICKING!



UP EARLY, THEN A SESSION IN THE GUIDING
SITE AT THE BATTING TEE AND FIELDING
PRACTICE DAY AFTER DAY. DAVE LEARNS
FROM CAPABLE INSTRUCTORS.

ON YOUR BACK! HIT
THE DIRT ON YOUR
BACK!

NOT
LOW
ENOUGH!

LENGTHEN THAT
STRIKE, SON.
THAT WAY YOU'LL
GET MORE POWER
IN YOUR SWING.

NO MATTER HOW MUCH
YOU DO THIS, THERE'S
ALWAYS SOME NEW
TRICK TO LEARN.



IN EARLY APRIL, DAVE LEFT
DODGERTOWN WITH HIS NEW
CLUB, THE SHEBOYGAN CLUB OF
THE WISCONSIN STATE LEAGUE.
HE WAS THE REGULAR 'HOT
CORNER' GUARDIAN.



PLAYING REGULARLY, DAVE WAS
SOON SHOWING THE RESULTS OF
HIS EARLY SPRING TRAINING. HIS
BATTING WAS POWERFUL.

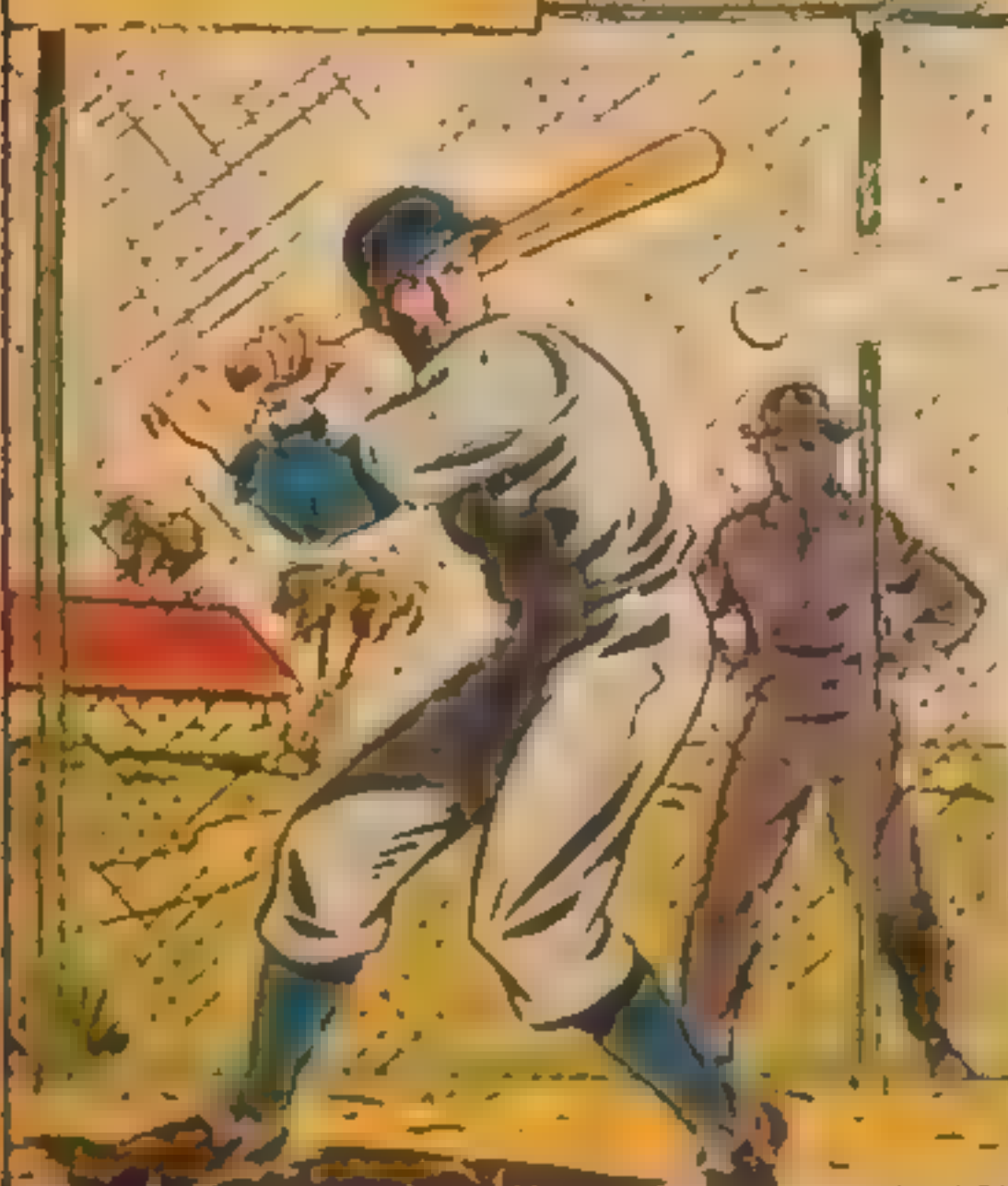


NOW 18 YEARS OLD, DAVE
FINISHED THE SEASON WITH
A .343 BATTING AVERAGE. IN
FIELDING, HE LED HIS LEAGUE'S
THIRD BASEMEN.

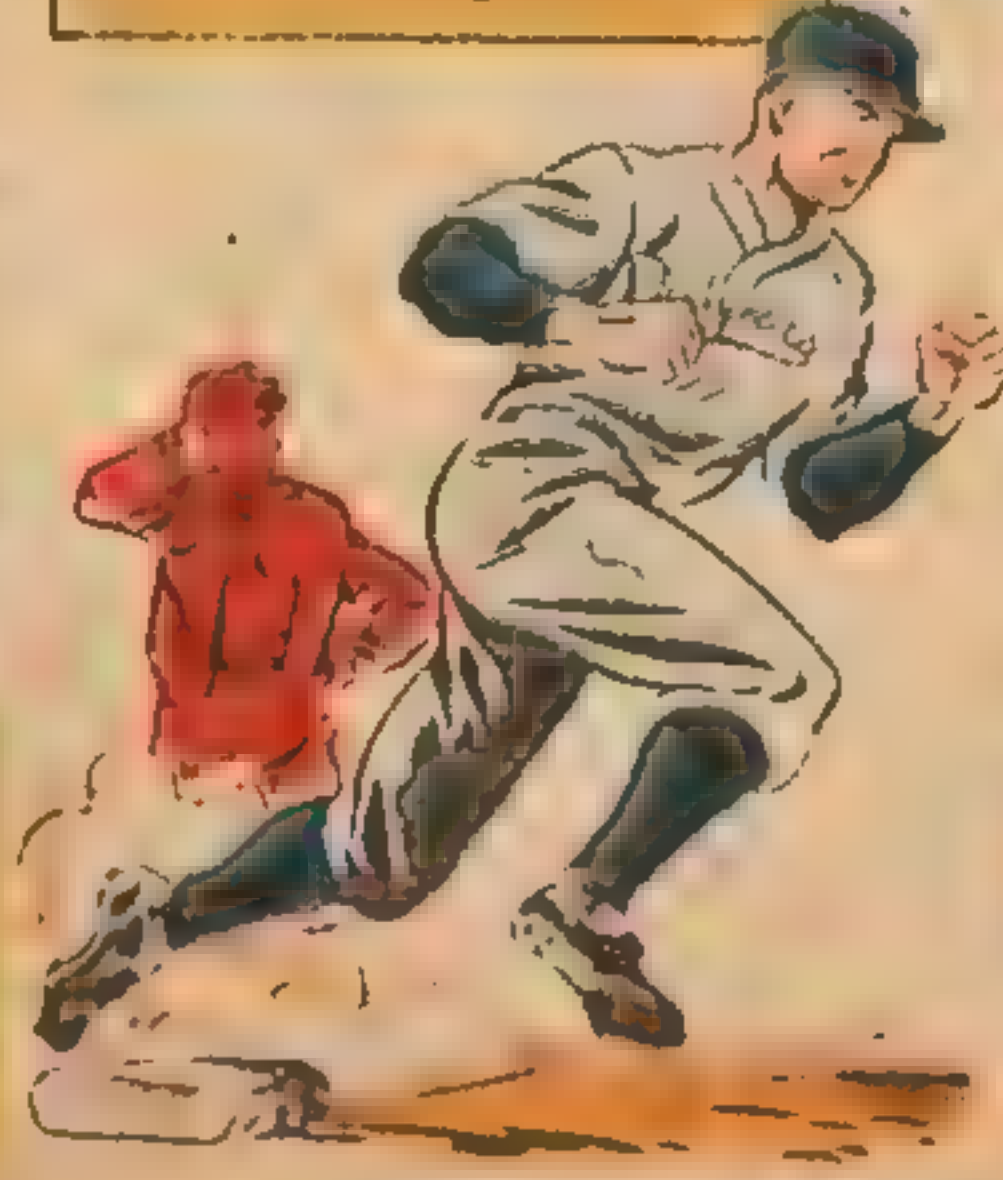
NEXT YEAR IT'LL BE
A HIGHER LEAGUE FOR
YOU, DAVE! KEEP UP THE GOOD
WORK, AND YOU'LL BE IN
EBBETS FIELD BEFORE
YOU KNOW IT!



NEXT SPRING, DAVE AGAIN RE-
PORTED TO VERO BEACH, WHERE
AGAIN HIS FLAWS WERE SPOTTED,
AND WAS GIVEN CORRECTIVE
INSTRUCTIONS...



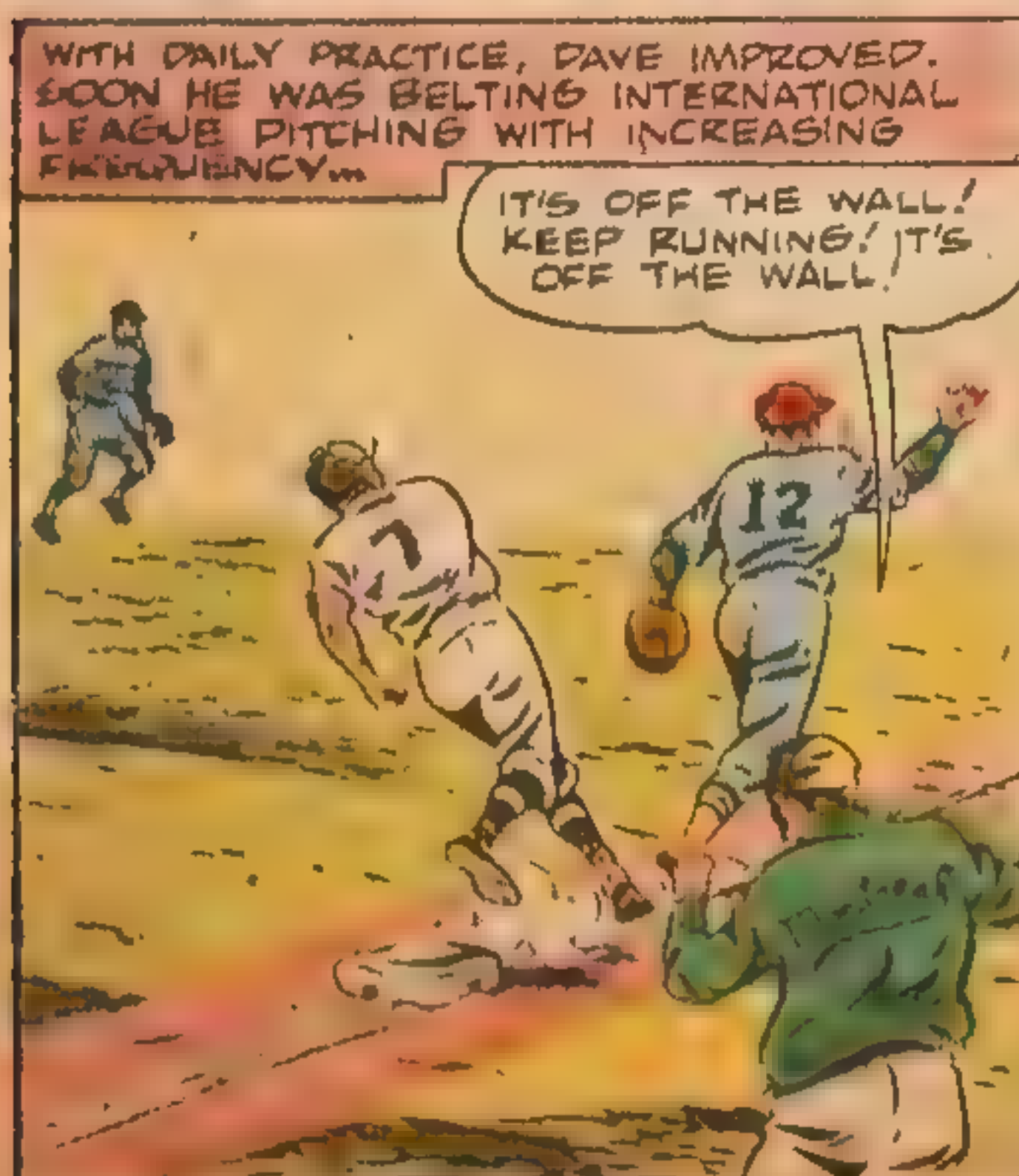
THE MANAGER OF A CLASS B
FARM CLUB, ASHEVILLE, OF
THE TRI-STATE LEAGUE,
SPOTTED DAVE AND PUT
IN A B.I.D. FOR HIM. AS A
RESULT, DAVE SKIPPED
THE CLASS C LEAGUE.



IN ASHEVILLE, DAVE AGAIN HIT
WELL. HE SLAMMED THE BALL
AT A .328 PACE, AND FIELDED
HIS POSITION CAPABLY...

RUNNER IS FAST...
GOT TO THROW
UNDERHAND TO
SAVE SECONDS.

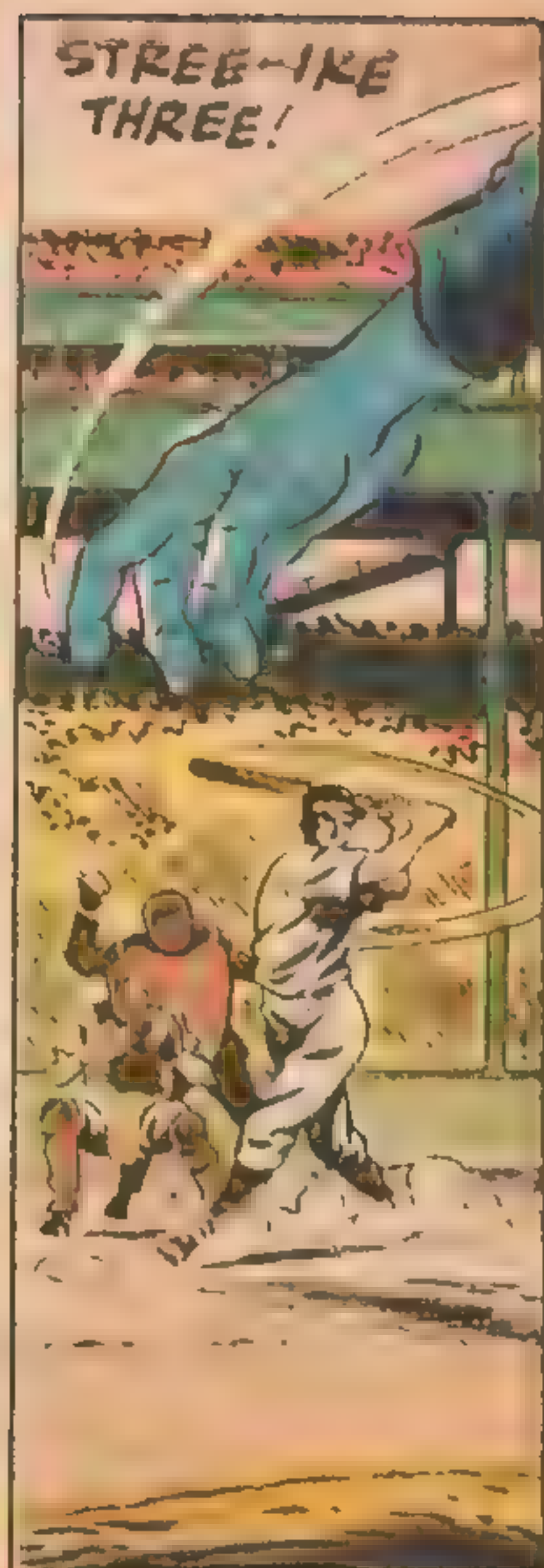
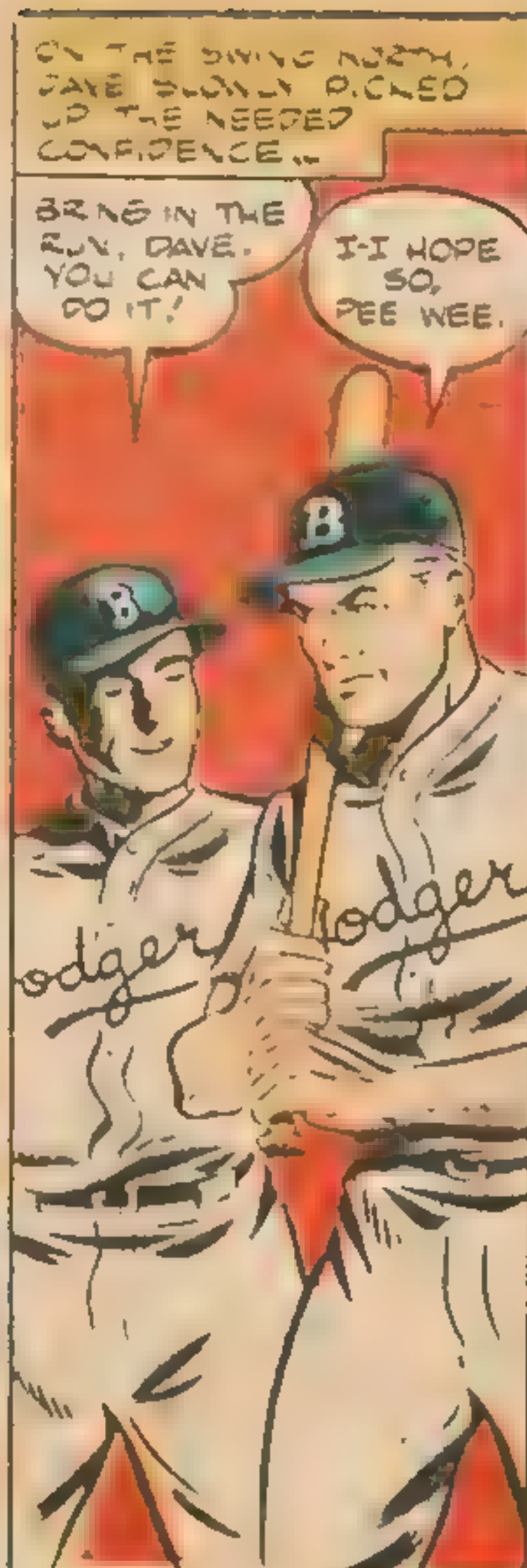




DAVE FINISHED THAT SEASON AT MONTREAL HITTING .289... IT WAS NOT A GREAT MARK, BUT MOST OF HIS HITTING HAD BEEN DONE AT THE TAG END OF THE YEAR. BY THE TIME THE SPRING TRAINING CAMPS OPENED, DAVE WAS ON THE ROSTER OF THE PARENT DODGERS FOR A TRYOUT...



ONE NIGHT IN EARLY APRIL—



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